

skills

# Pioneer Days features old-time crafts,

T s OCT 2 1983

By Sue Loughlin  
Tribune-Star Staff Reporter

Those attending Pioneer Days at Fowler Park Saturday got a unique look at the past, as volunteers and park workers donned old-fashioned attire to show how life was "back in the good ol' days."

Marsha Rawley, county park department secretary, stood over a hot pot of ham and beans to prepare a meal for the nearly 50 volunteers.

The meal — all homemade — included fried chicken, noodles, rolls, bread and jelly. Food was cooked over a woodburning stove — the authentic Pioneer Village does not have electricity or running water.

Vigo County park department director Keith Ruble expects 8,000 to 10,000 for the two-day event, which concludes today.

The idea, he said, is to recreate life as it existed in the pioneer days. "It's something for the whole fami-

ly," he said. "We're not here to make money."

From start to stop, a walk through the village was filled with old-fashioned treats.

Outside one cabin, children petted a miniature donkey, which basked in the attention, and balked and heehawed when left alone.

Next door, Betty Alcorn used applewood, goldenrod and Marygold flowers to boil the dye out, which she would use to color yarn.

Ralph Coddington, Indianapolis,

drove an old box-bed wagon with the help of his Percheron mare, Green Lea March. He was accompanied by his son-in-law, Gary Emsweller, county extension agent, and Emsweller's son, Drew.

In another cabin, an attentive audience listened to Ginny Clark as she explained how bread was baked over an open hearth. Nearby, her husband, Charles Clark, helped children saw logs.

"Today, we're lumberjacks," said Clark, administrative assistant at the Vigo County School Corp. He was assisted by Dwight Kumpf, director of the Agriculture Soil Conservation Service.

The kids then took the round wood slabs to Mark Lubbenhusen, who branded names on the wood — at no cost.

Similar scenes were endless. Helen Bouillez used a spinning wheel to spin wool; Curt DeBaun and Georgia Jones, director of the Vigo County Historical Society, played dulcimers.

REFERENCE  
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Vigo County Public Library



Parks &amp; Recreation (UC)



Tribune-Star/Randy Prophet

## Grinding away

Curt DeBaun, left foreground, and Keith Ruble check out the grinder that will be used this weekend to grind sorghum at Fowler Park for the Pioneer Days festival. The pole Ruble is looking at will be attached to horses, which supply the majority of the effort to grind the sorghum.

Festival time?

Community Affairs File

HOLIDAYS SPECIAL EVENTS?

# Pioneer Days

T OCT 1 1983

By Kathy Gurchiek  
Tribune-Star Staff Reporter

The juicy-sweet smell of fresh apple cider, the bleat of sheep being sheared and woodchips flying into the air as logs and rails are split are among the smells, sounds and sights of the Fowler Park Pioneer Days this weekend.

The 11th annual festival depicting the early life of Indiana settlers includes 100 booths of handcrafted and homebaked goods for sale, and demonstrations of pioneer skills in and outside the log buildings.

Costumed county Parks and Recreation Department employees and volunteers will not be idle.

Visitors strolling the grounds of the pioneer community can see demonstrations of weaving, carving of decoys, broommaking and the making of cornhusk dolls.

Meat will be cured in the smokehouse. Apples will be ground for fresh cider and a hog will be butchered and ground for sausage to feed park employees during the day. Sorghum stalks will be ground and the liquid boiled into molasses at the newly constructed evaporator.

Wood will be shaved to make pitchforks, clapboard shingles con-

structed for the sorghum evaporator and logs hand hewn. Children can cut slivers of sassafras and have their initials burnt into the wood for free souvenirs, Parks and Recreation Department Superintendent W. Keith Ruble said.

Wool will be dyed and woven and candles dipped. Quilting and spinning will be demonstrated, and the Vigo County Historical Society will have a display of quilts and a raffle in the lower level of the barn. A blacksmith also will be at work.

A display of honey bees can be seen behind the barn. In the General Stores, park employees will take their turn being shaved and shorn by the barber.

None of the items produced in the pioneer village will be for sale. Ruble said. However, across Irishman's Bridge, consumers can take advantage of about 100 different booths selling handcrafted items, baked goods, produce, antiques and art work.

Apple butter, simmering in two kettles, will be sold and a furrier will sell coonskin caps, trinkets and similar items.

Dinner will be served near the shelter both days, with ham and beans on today's menu. Ruble said.

REFERENCE  
DO NOT CIRCULATE  
Vigo County Public Library





**Tribune-Star/Randy Prophet**

## **Heap big tepee**

Roy and Donna Brown of West Terre Haute join forces outside their American Indiana teepee Friday at Fowler Park south of Terre Haute. The two took advantage of good weather to work on leather goods that they plan to sell during the annual Pioneer Days festival.



# A taste of old days' old ways

## Pioneers leave a touch of country with kids

Parks & Recreation (VC)

By Sue Loughlin T s APR 27 1987  
Tribune-Star Staff Reporter

The two pioneer women with their country-folk slang told the group of children to close their eyes and imagine being in the woods with "leaves and trees so thick you can't see the sun."

"Buckeye" and "Molly" hoped to bring the Fairbanks School fourth-graders back in touch with nature during a visit Friday to the Pioneer Village in Fowler Park. They also showed students what it was like in the 1830s when Hoosier pioneer women had to rely on the land and surroundings for survival.

Judee Sweet (Buckeye) and Jan Sutton (Molly) of Carmel re-enact early Indiana history using storytelling and activities to depict backwoods women.

Sweet and Sutton want to make children more aware of their environment and teach them values that are important in life.

"We want them to see what's around them," from a buckeye to a dandelion to a pine cone, Molly and Buckeye explained.

At one point, the backwoods mother and daughter showed children how to make a chain of dandelion stems, which they threw on a tree to make wishes.

"Don't tell what the wish is," said Buckeye, adding, "there ain't nothing pertier than a dandelion."

The 43 students — two fourth-grade classes

— were dressed in pioneer garb. Girls wore long dresses, bonnets, shawls and braids, while boys wore suspenders and raccoon caps. Some carried replicas of old-time guns.

With country-folk slang, the rugged, uneducated pioneer women talked about pole cats and 'possums, twice-a-year baths, working the land and memory bags.

They wore dogwood branches and wild-bird feathers in their hats and Molly had a possum skull in hers. Clay pipes dangled from their mouths and they wore necklaces made of buckeyes, walnuts and a turtle shell.

Molly also wore a bearfoot pouch. "Everything in there is special," she said of her memory bag, where she puts items that have been important in her life.

Later, Buckeye gave students real buckeyes to put in their own memory bags which they brought.

Buckeye said backwoods women had to carry all necessities on them. "If you don't see it, I don't got it."

Their "dog," Thistle, scampered around, much to the children's amusement. The "dog" looked and sounded amazingly like a goat.

"She don't hunt and she don't bark. She's growing horns is what she's doing," Molly said.

Buckeye explained she never liked to read and write and Molly never got to go to school.

"You're lucky," one Fairbanks school student said from the background.

At one point, students were asked to use their noses — "the bump on your head" — and smell their environment.

"Who's had their spring bath. Anybody?," Molly asked. If you took more than a spring and fall bath, she explained, lye soap "will run a hole right through your skin."

Later, they went inside a cabin. The women said they slept in a loft and kept a black snake to eat the mice. To find out if the snake did its job, hold it up behind the head, and run your hand up and down. If it has lumps, it has eaten the mice.

The duo later showed kids how to trap a pole cat — also known as a skunk. You could boil the meat and use the broth to cure your ills. Students also learned how to make rope and played a pioneer game called "skunk."

The students liked their pioneer education. "I like it when they talk about trapping and pole cats and making stuff to keep well," said Tim Barnett, 10.

Mark Long, 9, who wore a raccoon cap, said he thought "it would be fun sleeping in the loft." But without the black snake.

Jessica Carroll, 10, liked the "weird" pioneer names they made up. Her pioneer name was "Blackbird."

"Not really," she said when asked if she'd like to live in pioneer days. "There's a bunch of work to do."

Heidi Eddy, 9, thought it would be neat to make your own clothes "instead of just buying them in stores."

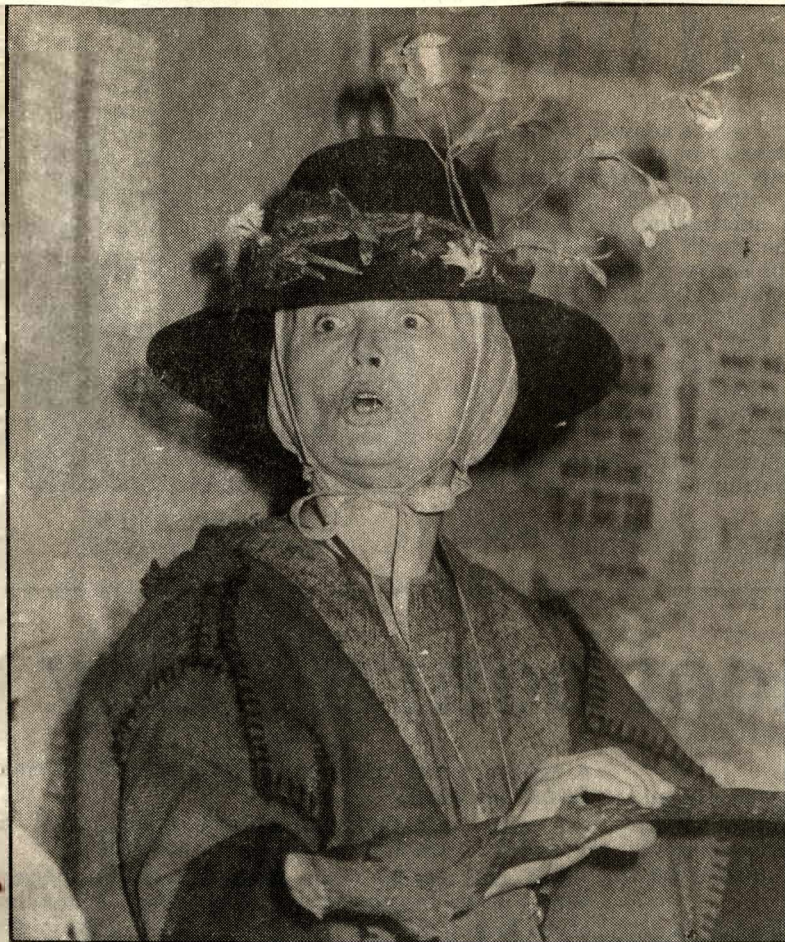
Fourth-grade teachers Jayne Odum and Paul Utterback accompanied the students, who have planned for the special visit since January.

Vigo County Public Library

Community Affairs File

REFERENCE  
DO NOT CIRCULATE





Tribune-Star/Jim Avelis  
**Perty as picture:** "Molly" (above) has a good laugh with dogwood blossoms hanging from her hat, while "Buckeye" shows children out pioneer women survived.





Tribune-Star/Jim Avelis

**Story time:** Fairbanks Elementary School children gather round storytellers at Fowler Park's Pioneer Village.



# Vigo Park And Recreation Dept. Reviews Recent Years' Progress

*Parks and Recreation (Vigo Co.)*

## Community Affairs File

3 JAN 7 1975

**EDITOR'S NOTE** — This is the second in a series of three articles outlining the plans and some of the accomplishments of the Vigo County Park and Recreation Department during 1974 and since its establishment in 1967.

By JESS WILLIAMS  
Star Assistant Editor

The Vigo County Park and Recreation Department points with pride to some of the accomplishments realized for the benefit of Vigo Countians during the past two years.

A much needed restroom-shower facility was completed at Fowler Park, south of the city and a larger restroom facility was built in the camping area, while two small units were moved to the primitive area, according to Keith Ruble, Vigo Park superintendent.

Fowler Park beach was im-

proved with the addition of a water slide and a stationary diving platform that is equipped with a swing and diving board.

+ + +

First of its kind in the county, — a creative playground was built which is both a fun playground and body developer. The body developer also helps to enrich childrens' imaginations, according to Chester Burkeybyle, assistant park superintendent. It is made out of ballast beams, has platforms, a slide, poles and even a firemen's slide pole. It has a good cover of sand under the "you name it" and the children can imagine it's all sorts of things while playing and exercising. Burkeybyle says it's also a lot of fun to watch adults whose curiosity gets the best of them.

Other improvements at Fowler Park include expansion of the maintenance building

(the additional lean-to off the main building will be used for repairs to large and small equipment for storage); trees in the camping area are being thinned to permit proper sunlight penetration; and camping pads and fireplaces are being upgraded which will prevent soil loss and root exposure and will eliminate undesignated ground fires.

Several facilities at Fowler Park will be adapted for the physically handicapped to use. Side walks and ramps will be built so people in wheel chairs can use some facilities.

+ + +

Prairie Creek Park, one mile north of Prairie Creek on State Road 63 and one mile east, which will be open to the public in May 1975 covers approximately 100 acres. The new multi-purpose facility will offer camping, picnicing, two softball fields, playground, hiking and nature trails, tennis fishing and possible swimming.

The majority of these facilities will be accessible to the handicapped, Ruble explained. It will also serve as a tree nursery area for the Vigo County Park system. Several thousand tree seedlings have already been planted as well as many of Indiana's state tree, the tulip poplar.

+ + +

Old New Goshen School was restored and opened to the public in the fall of 1974 for tours and various meetings. School was held in the old structure, that includes two classrooms and a vestibule, during the Banks-of-the-Wabash Festival. One of the rooms has been restored the way it was originally while the other was remodeled slightly for public use, according to Ruble.

The park department welcomes the use of the school's facilities for meetings, and tours for clubs, groups and school classes. "It is hoped that an interpreter can be used to take school classes through the facility, describing the school's history and showing educational displays of the park," Ruble declared. There is a playground and picnic facilities that can be used for family reunions by contacting the park department office. A 4-H Home Economics group now meets at the old schoolhouse regularly.

+ + +

Ruble explained that VCPRD's Nature Area's Program is to bring about a better understanding and appreciation of our natural resources and to hopefully preserve the last remaining areas in Vigo County for educational and historical purposes.

The park department gives guided tours at three areas which include: Hunt's nature Center, located 3 miles south of Prairieton and 1½ miles east, and Deutsch Woods and Flesher Memorial Woods, southwest of Prairieton.

Hunts Nature Center served approximately 3,500 children and adults in 1974 and is the department's primary nature center, Ruble reported. School groups may arrange visits by calling the department.

+ + +

The new Pilot Rural Recreation Program, Ruble explained is designed to serve rural communities that are void of recreation facilities for residents in the area. Mainly, children would benefit from this program, because there would be recreation facilities within walking distance.

The areas presently being considered in this program include: Fontanet, Prairieton and West Terre Haute north of U.S. 40, Ruble concluded.

**NEXT: Glenn Recreation PROGRAM**

REFERENCE  
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Community Affairs File

Vigo County Public Library



# Glenn Recreation Center Offers Vigo Countians Many Programs

*Parks and Recreation (Vigo Co.)*

8 JAN 8 1978

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** This is the third and last in a series of articles outlining the plans and some of the accomplishments of the Vigo County Park and Recreation Department during 1974 and since its establishment in 1967.

By JESS WILLIAMS  
Star Assistant Editor

Another program about which the Vigo County Park and Recreation Department expresses a great deal of pride is the Glenn Recreation Center and its many programs.

The Center, which was opened during the Christmas season of 1972, in the old Glenn High School Building on U.S. Highway 40, this past fall offered approximately thirty programs to the public.

Basketball seems to be one of the top activities at Glenn Rec Center, according to Cecelia McLean, center director, who states that leagues have been formed for women, a men's industrial group and for all boys. Volleyball is also a successful activity at the center.

Some of the other activities offered during this past fall included tumbling, babysitting, rifle-safety and cheerleading for the children and woodworking, furniture refinishing, home landscaping and oil painting for adults.

+ + +

A pre-school program was new for the center this fall and at present there are twenty boys and girls, three and four years old, attending sessions

Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. The children engage in painting, crafts and science along with learning to share both toys and responsibilities.

The Senior Citizens group at the center is constantly growing, according to the director. The group now enjoys dominoes, cards, shuffleboard and pool, and it is hoped according to the director that interests will be expanded to crafts and dancing in the spring.

The Center building has three floors. First floor includes the pre-school program, senior citizens room, arts and crafts, lockers, weight room and the gymnasium which affords large capacity seating and a stage. The arts and crafts room includes ceramics (have own kiln), pottery, candle making,

decoupage and many other crafts. The director says that this room is always filled with adults and children.

Second floor accommodates all those who enjoy pool and ping pong. There are also several table games and meeting rooms, the main center office and a television room.

Third floor is comprised of meeting rooms, frequently used by scout groups. One large room which is used for boxing. An organized program of boxing now includes 20 boys and is supervised by adult volunteers. The center has its own boxing ring which is used for bouts at least five times a year, according to the center director.

A Karate group has also been organized at the center and is

supervised by an adult volunteer.

+ + +

The Glenn Recreation Center claims one of the best softball fields in the area and fund raising projects, through outside groups, are now attempting to raise money for an eight-pole lighting system for the ball diamond. In addition the center has a full size football field and space to have a nature area on the rear of the property.

The recreation center is open seven days a week with the building open to the public at noon Mondays through Fridays and closes at 9:30 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. The building is available for reservations before or after regular activities hours. Persons may call 877-9988 for center information or the Vigo County Park and Recreation Dept. 232-4074.

The staff at Glenn Center includes the director, an assistant director, sports director, arts and crafts director, pre-school instructor, two staff supervisors and maintenance

supervisor. Most of the staff are students at Indiana State University and St. Mary-of-the-Woods College or recent college graduates, according to the center director.

REFERENCE  
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Community Affairs File

Vigo County Public Library



FRIDAY, OCT. 3, 1975

Community Affairs File



**CABIN RAISING CONTINUES** at Fowler Park, which will be the scene Saturday and Sunday of the third annual Pioneer Days fall festival. Visitors may see the cabins in various stages of construction this weekend, as well as learn how to construct a fireplace and chimney in a log cabin. From right are Keith Ruble, superintendent of the Vigo County Park and Recreation Department; Jim Whitaker, an employee, and Chet Burkeybyle, assistant park superintendent. The park, about six miles south of Terre Haute just east of U.S. 41, is especially lovely now with its fall foliage, a red covered bridge, and a peaceful lake too cool for swimming but great for fishing. Displays and demonstrations and a nostalgic look at the Pioneer Past are promised visitors who attend the weekend festival.

House of Photography Photo.

OCT 3 1975

Community Affairs File

Vigo County Public Library

REFERENCE  
DO NOT CIRCULATE



# Fowler Park Prepares For Pioneer Festival

T OCT

3 1975

Park Recreation  
(Vigo)

By CAROLYN TOOPS  
Tribune Staff Writer

Fall foliage, fun, food and festivities at Fowler Park this weekend will be the featured attractions for visitors to the third annual Pioneer Days Festival

Activities get under way about 9 a.m. Saturday and will continue until about 9 p.m. Sunday. Vigo County Park and Recreation Supt. Keith Ruble said Fowler Park is located about six miles south of Terre Haute and east of U.S. 41.

The action will be concentrated in the Pioneer Village near the park entrance, where a little settlement of five authentic log cabins has sprung up. Two are completed, and three others are in various stages of construction, enabling visitors to see exactly how the work is done. The cabin raising will continue all during the

festival. This past week, Ruble and Park Department employees have been roofing one of the buildings, preparing tripods for the hominy demonstrations and getting things ready for the various contests.

Also of interest will be the

See Picture on Page 2

construction of a fireplace in one of the cabins. About eight tons of rocks are needed for each cabin's fireplace and chimney, Ruble noted.

Food and a Flea Market will require some spending money, however. Articles at the Flea Market will be in keeping with the Pioneer Days theme, handmade or natural, with antiques expected to be displayed, also.

A costume contest, demonstrations of arts and crafts of a bygone day, horse-drawn wagon rides through the park,

old-fashioned games and contests are all on the weekend program.

The Fort Minglewood Long Rifles will take up residence in the park during Pioneer Days

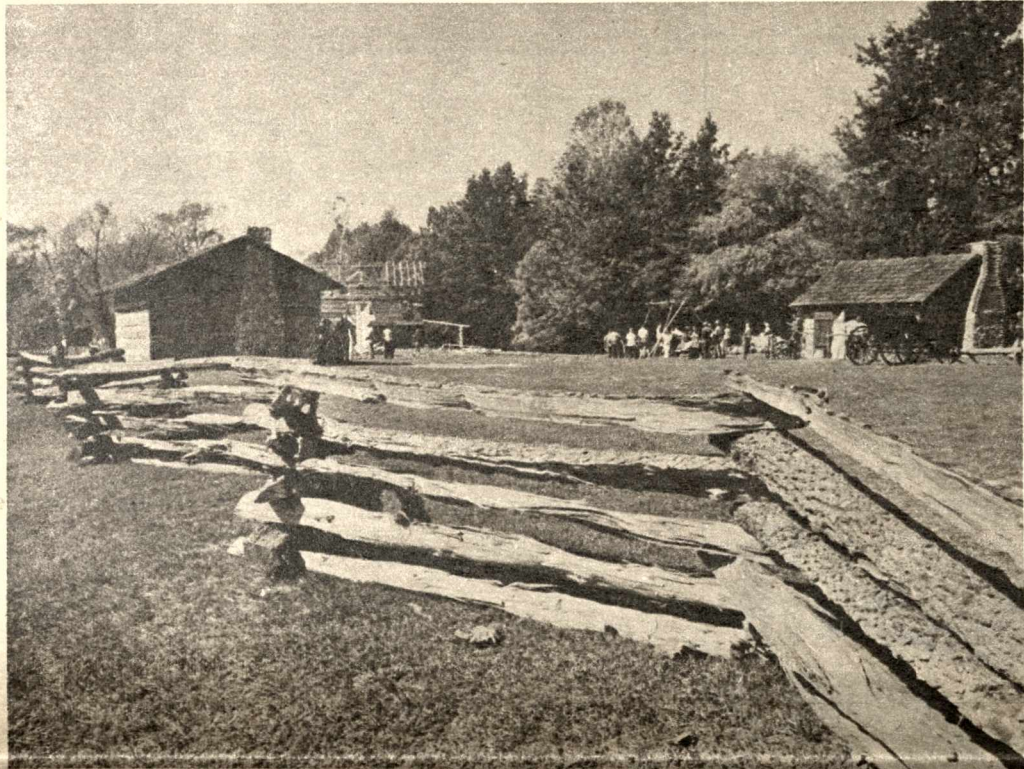
and will show visitors how to erect a teepee, how to make bullets and dress and roast a hog. They will also conduct rifle-firing demonstrations.

Junior Hunt and his Percherons will again provide the wagon rides.

This year, to raise money for their trip to the Orange Bowl in Miami, the Terre Haute North Vigo Band and Boosters will be serving two meals, ham and beans Saturday and beef stew Sunday. North Vigo is the only band from Indiana that will be participating in the Oragne Bowl festivities, and the project at Fowler Park is just one of several that the band members and boosters have been involved in to finance the journey.



# PERFECT FALL WEATHER MADE PIONEER DAYS AT FOWLER PARK BEST YET



PICTURESQUE PIONEERS were on hand to welcome visitors to the Pioneer Festival at Fowler Park and to demonstrate a variety of arts and crafts dating back many, many years.



THIS 1845 COVERED BRIDGE is one of the star attractions at Vigo County's Fowler Park.

Community Affairs File  
Vigo County Public Library  
Community Affairs File  
Ts NOV 21 1976  
REFERENCE  
DO NOT CIRCULATE



OUTDOOR FLEA MARKET at the Fowler Park Pioneer Days Festival also featured many valuable not-for-sale items that were displayed for visitors.



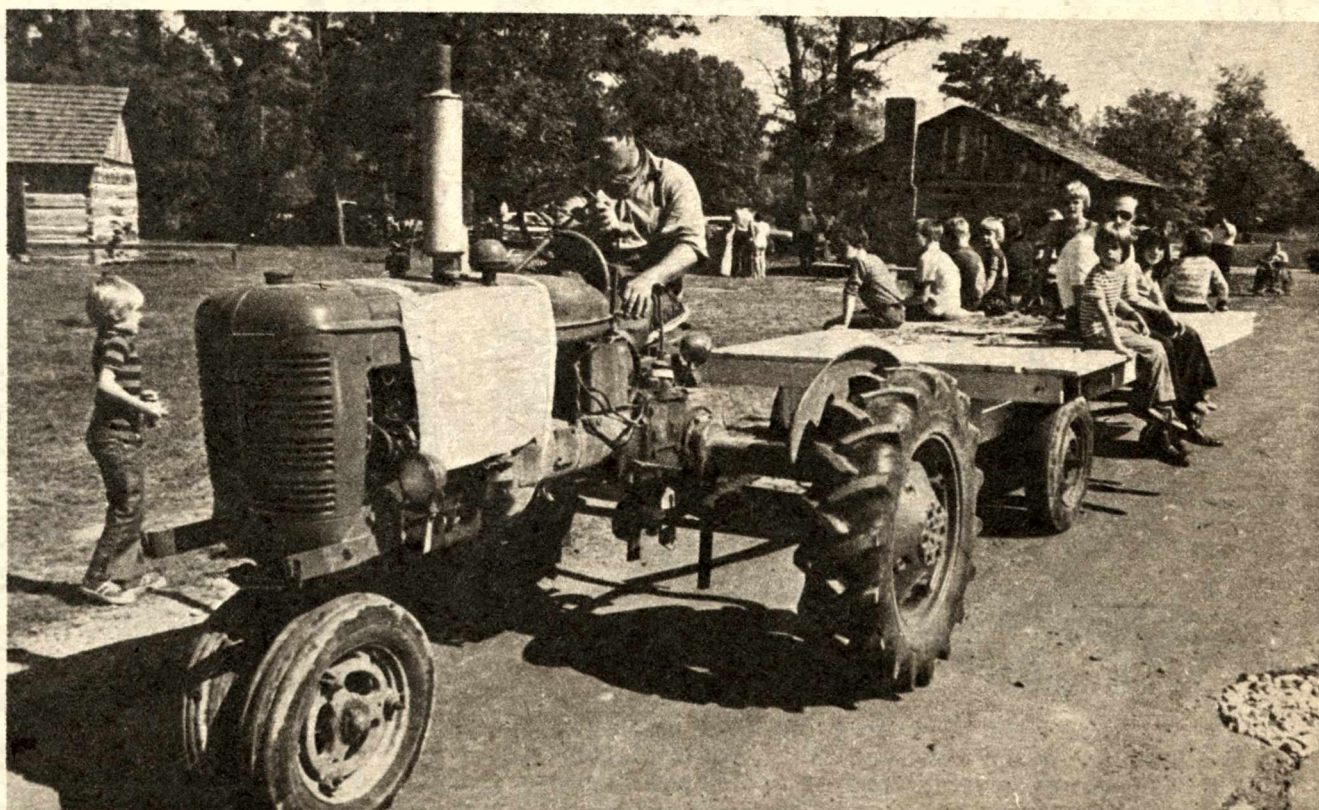


QUILTING is painstaking work. This intricate design was admired by many a visitor at Fowler Park.

TS NOV 21 1976

HOMINY was prepared this way in Pioneer Days, and Sally Traverse and Dorcas Dial demonstrated old-style cookery during the fourth annual Pioneer Days Festival at Fowler Park. Park Superintendent Keith Ruble makes sure the log tripod is stable.

FREE RIDES around Fowler Park were offered during the fourth annual Pioneer Days Festival at the county park located about 10 miles south of Terre Haute. The Pioneer Village near the park entrance already has four cabins, a blacksmith shop and a general store, and a log barn built on a bank.





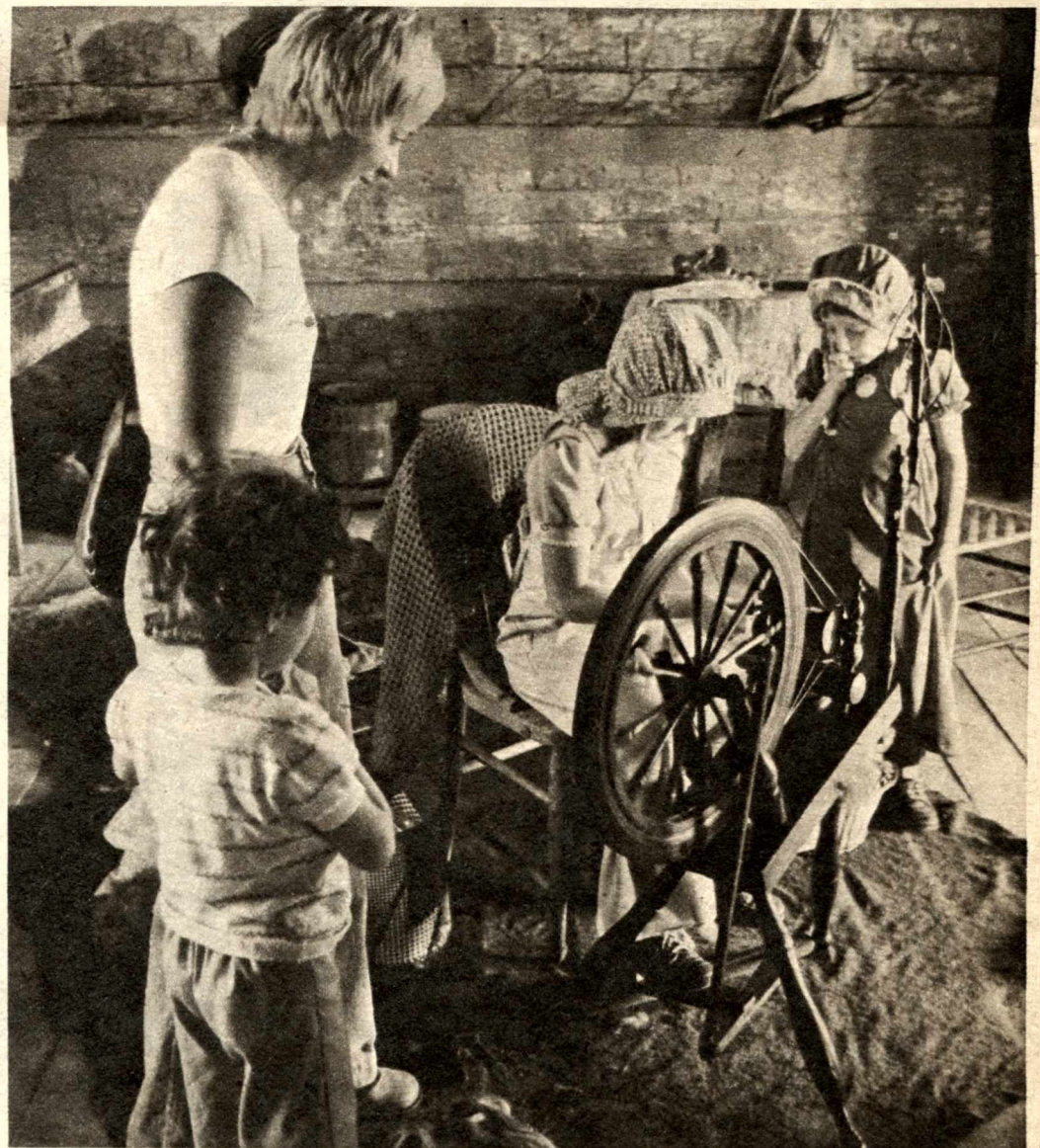
# MORE SCENES OF FOWLER PARK FALL FESTIVAL



LOULA BERRY showed Julie and Kelly Clark how a loom operates.



TAKING AIM — Earl Ferran had a large display of antique guns at the Festival. Billy Raetz of Huntingburg couldn't resist the chance to pick one up and examine it carefully.



THE ART OF SPINNING was demonstrated by Brenda Miller during the fourth annual Pioneer Days Festival.





**BUTCHERING** was another of the demonstrations put on at the Pioneer Days Festival.



**COONSKIN CAP** was worn by County Park and Recreation Superintendent Keith Ruble during the fall festival at Fowler Park as he demonstrated shingle-cutting techniques.



**PRETTY TRACY DIAL** was assigned butter-churning duties at the Pioneer Days Festival at Fowler Park.



**HATCHET MEN** — Warren Martin of Brazil and Sam Henderson of Terre Haute showed visitors how hatchets are constructed.



OCT 1 1976

# Pioneer Day Fest

Parks and Recreation (Vigo Co.)

## Starts Saturday

Community Affairs File

### At Fowler Park

By CAROLYN TOOPS  
Tribune Staff Writer

Displays and demonstrations of old-time arts and crafts are among the highlights of the fourth annual Pioneer Days Festival this weekend at Fowler Park, south of Terre Haute.

The Vigo County Park and Recreation Department staff and other workers and volunteers have been busy in recent weeks getting everything ready for Saturday and Sunday festivities.

The pioneer village near the park entrance is in the midst of a mini building boom, with a log barn the latest addition to the little settlement, which includes four cabins a blacksmith shop and a general store.

Edith Ingle plans to demonstrate quilting both days of the festival, and Loula Berry will operate a loom in one of the cabins.

Donna Miller, wife of county park board president Max Miller, and her two daughters will take turns at a spinning wheel.

Jim Phillips will show the work of a blacksmith both mornings of the festival. And for a change of pace, Jimmy Mattox and his country western band will play music for listening or dancing on the green for those so inclined.

The Terre Haute South Vigo Booster Club, in a fundraising project, will put on a bean dinner Saturday and a beef stew dinner Sunday.

The park department will provide meals for employees who will be working during the festival, and in keeping with the theme, the cooking will be done on an old stove (with a new flue) in one of the cabins. Breadmaking is planned, as well as preparation of pumpkin pies and sugar cookies.

Butter churning, hominy and soap making, as well as candle dipping, will also be demonstrated.

Special guests will be the Fort Minglewood Long Rifles, who will give a muzzle-loading performance.

Flea market buffs will be well-rewarded by a trip to Fowler Park during the Pioneer Days Festival. Approximately 30 tables have already been reserved by dealers. Some additional space is available, and may be booked by calling the County Park Department.

Railsplitting and shingle making are among the wood crafts to be demonstrated. Visitors may be treated to rides around the park in a stylish two-seater buggy drawn by "Polly," an Amish buggy mare.

Special new costumes for eight park staffers, including Supt. Keith Ruble and Asst. Supt. Chet Burkeybyle have been created for the occasion and are expected to be topped with Amish hats from Arthur, Ill. The young women who will be working at the festival also plan to wear calico or cotton dresses of yesteryear.

REFERENCE  
DO NOT CIRCULATE



Parks & Recreation (N.C.)

Community Affairs File

# Fowler Park's wilderness area opens

By Dave Delaney  
Tribune-Star Staff Reporter

"I don't believe there's anything else like it in Indiana," said Vigo County park superintendent Keith Ruble of the just-opened Fowler Park wilderness area.

The area is reached by a road south of the entrance to Fowler Park.

The 300-acre site has a dozen lakes, the largest of which is 18.6 acres. Ruble said eight of the lakes are stocked with crappie, bass and red-eared sunfish while 1,000 channel catfish will be released in the lakes this fall.

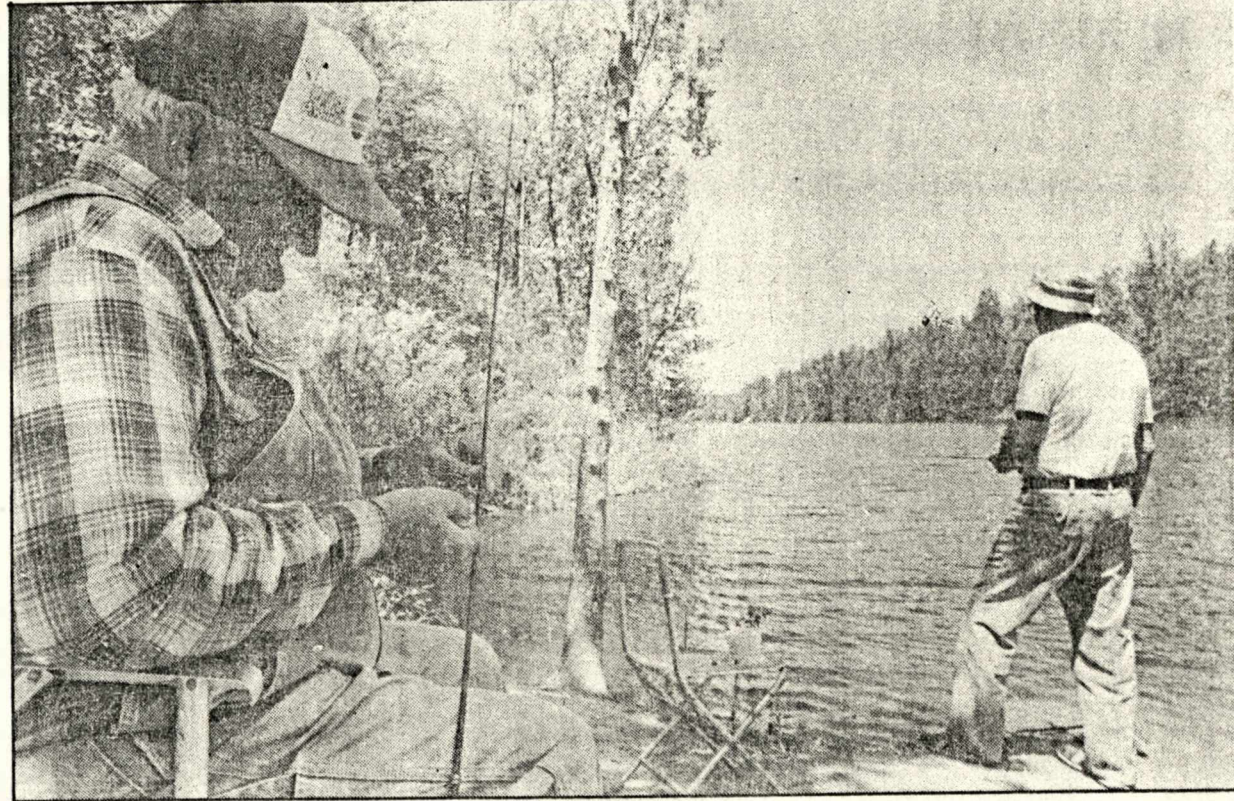
"The state is going to look into the possibility of stocking trout in the lake," continued Ruble, who explained the lakes are quite clear and appear to have enough oxygen content to support trout.

The wilderness area is to be used free for either hiking or camping. The camping areas can only be reached by backpacking a 1½ miles into the hilly and wooded area.

"People can either walk in or ride in on horseback," explained Ruble. Motorcycles are not allowed. There are approximately four miles of trails in the area, with another 2½ miles across the way in Fowler Park.

The county park superintendent said campers must carry in all their supplies and take out all their litter. There are no trash containers in the park.

Paths have been cut through it and meander past numerous small- and medium-sized lakes. Deepest lakes are 40 feet deep. Wild animals include deer, fox, ducks, lynx, muskrat and raccoon. Ruble said the trails would be well suited to cross-



Tribune-Star/Bob Poynter

**New fishin' hole:** Bob Irlbacker and Doyle Piety try wilderness lake

country skiing during the winter.

Birds include Carolina wrens, Eastern king bird, mocking birds, bobwhite, Baltimore orioles and towhees. Wild flowers dot the countryside and Ruble said mushrooms can be found throughout the area.

"The raspberries will be ready for picking in mid-June and blackberries in late July," said Ruble.

Trees are a combination of both natural and planted species. They include Chinese chestnut, European black alder, sweet gum, pine, white

and red oak and cottonwood.

"This is a different camping situation for people around here," Ruble said.

He said the land is a gift from Peabody Coal Co. "Peabody's Lester Shephard was very helpful in our getting it," he said. The property was used from 1970 to 1980 by the Wabash Valley Boy Scouts, but Ruble said they didn't get much use out of it.

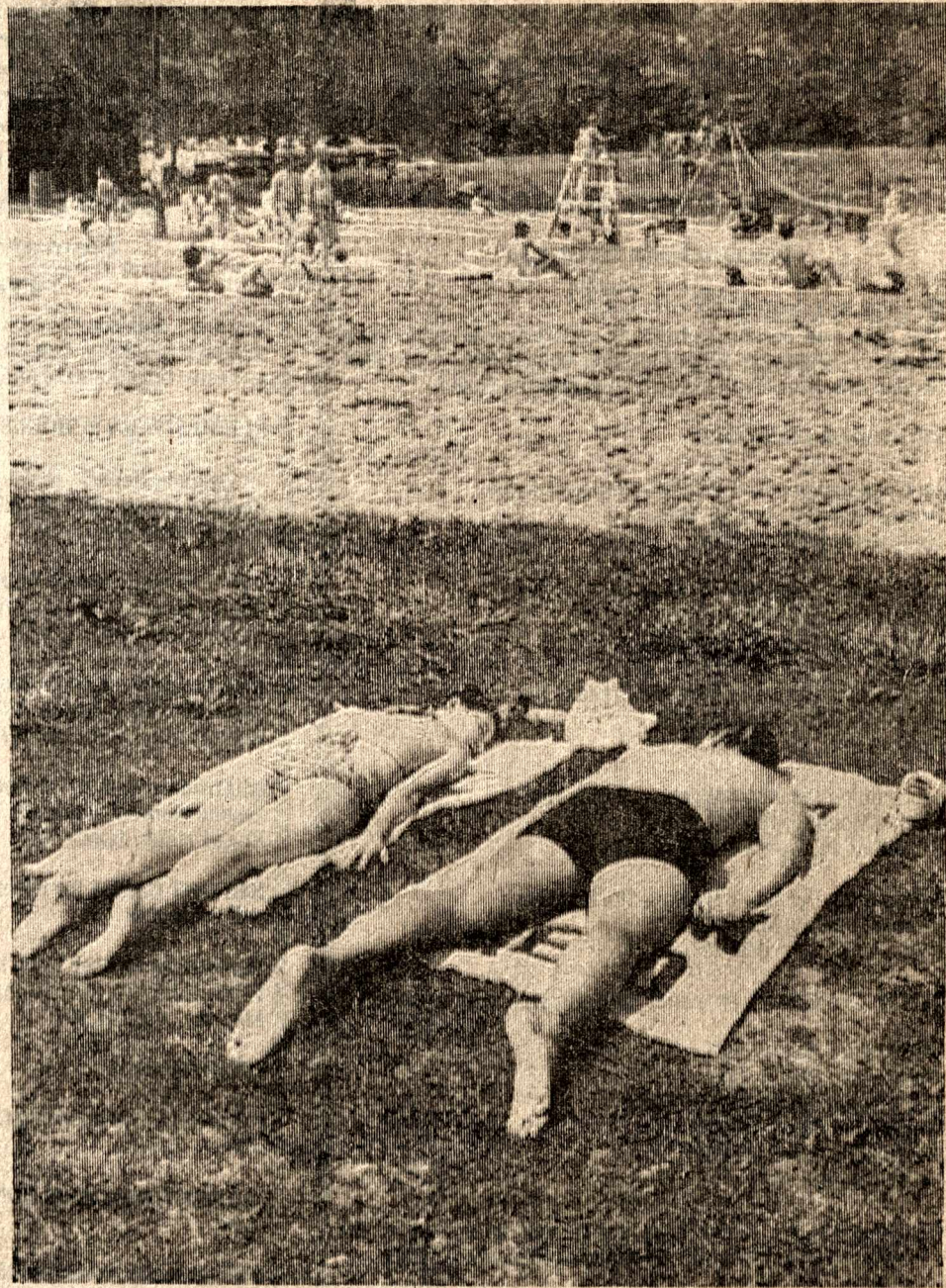
Gasoline outboard motors are not allowed on the lakes, but electric

trolling motors are welcome.

Ruble said the county has spent \$15,000 on the project, the state Department of Natural Resources contributed \$10,000 and J.I. Case contributed what Ruble estimates as much as \$100,000 worth of work. "They tested their tractors and backhoes by building the trails."

Although there's no fee to use the wilderness area, Ruble said reservations must be made for overnight camping. Call either 238-8391, 898-2279 or 238-8413.





**SUN WORSHIPERS** — Giving the sun plenty of attention and expecting a golden tan in return are two outdoor enthusiasts enjoying a day at Fowler Park, south of Terre Haute. In the background are other sun worshipers soaking up the healthy ingredient.

**T AUG 19 1976**

House of Photography Photo.

**REFERENCE  
DO NOT CIRCULATE**

Vigo County Public Library

Community Affairs File

*over*



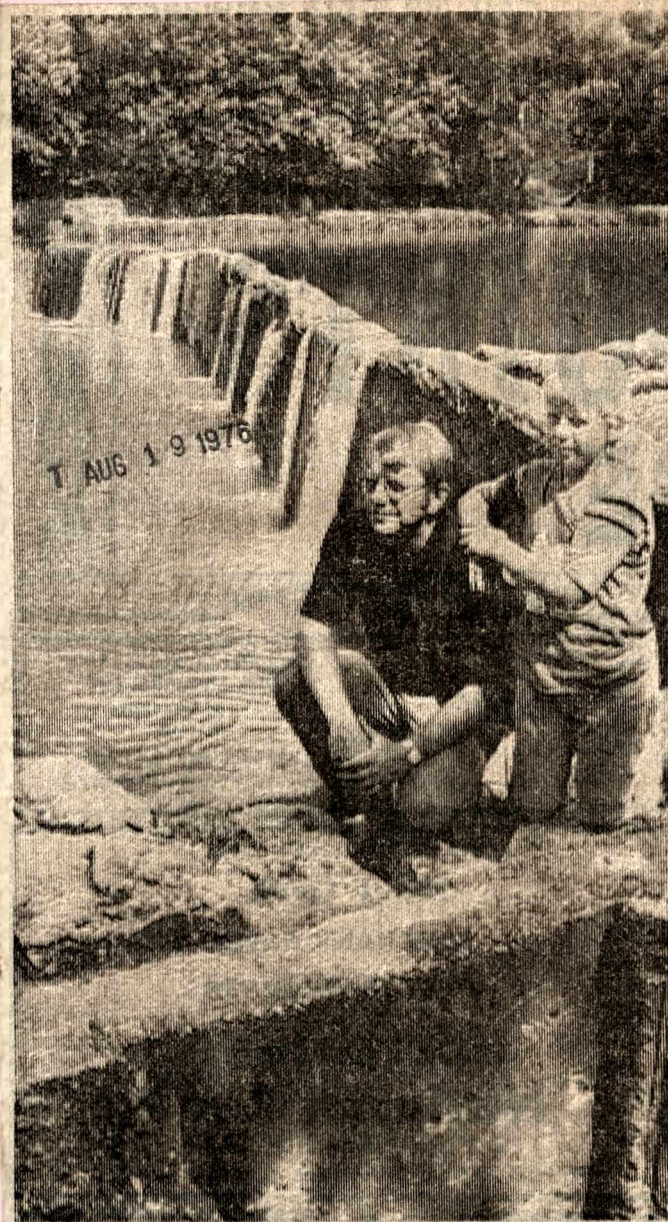


**BATHING BEAUTIES** — Nancy Smith, Pat Bassett and Janet Fields kick up the surf at Fowler Park during an afternoon summer outing. The trio enjoyed the summer sun and sparkling water along with many other local residents at one of the various Vigo County parks and pools.

House of Photography Photo

Community Affairs file





ENJOYING THE DAY at the Old Mill Dam on Otter Creek were Tom Stiffey and his son, Joe, who visited the site of the former Markle's Mill at North Terre Haute this week.

Community Aff. House of Photography Photo.





Tubman Stage 9-16-75

THE PIONEER VILLAGE at Fowler Park will be the focal point of the third annual Pioneer Days celebration Saturday, Oct. 4, and Sunday, Oct. 5. A continuing program of restoration, planned by the Vigo County Park and Recreation Department, looks toward the development of a complete village. Several log cabins presently form the nucleus of the little village. The oldest one dates back to 1820. The county park is located about six miles south of Terre Haute just east of U.S. 41. Recent visitors from Blackhawk were Beryl Rickett and his son Mike, who enjoyed a weekend of camping and exploring the park. Fowler Park also boasts a covered bridge, the oldest in Vigo County, built in 1845. The Pioneer Days weekend coming up will feature a flea market, an old fashioned dinner and games, including a tug-of-war across the water. House of Photography Photo.

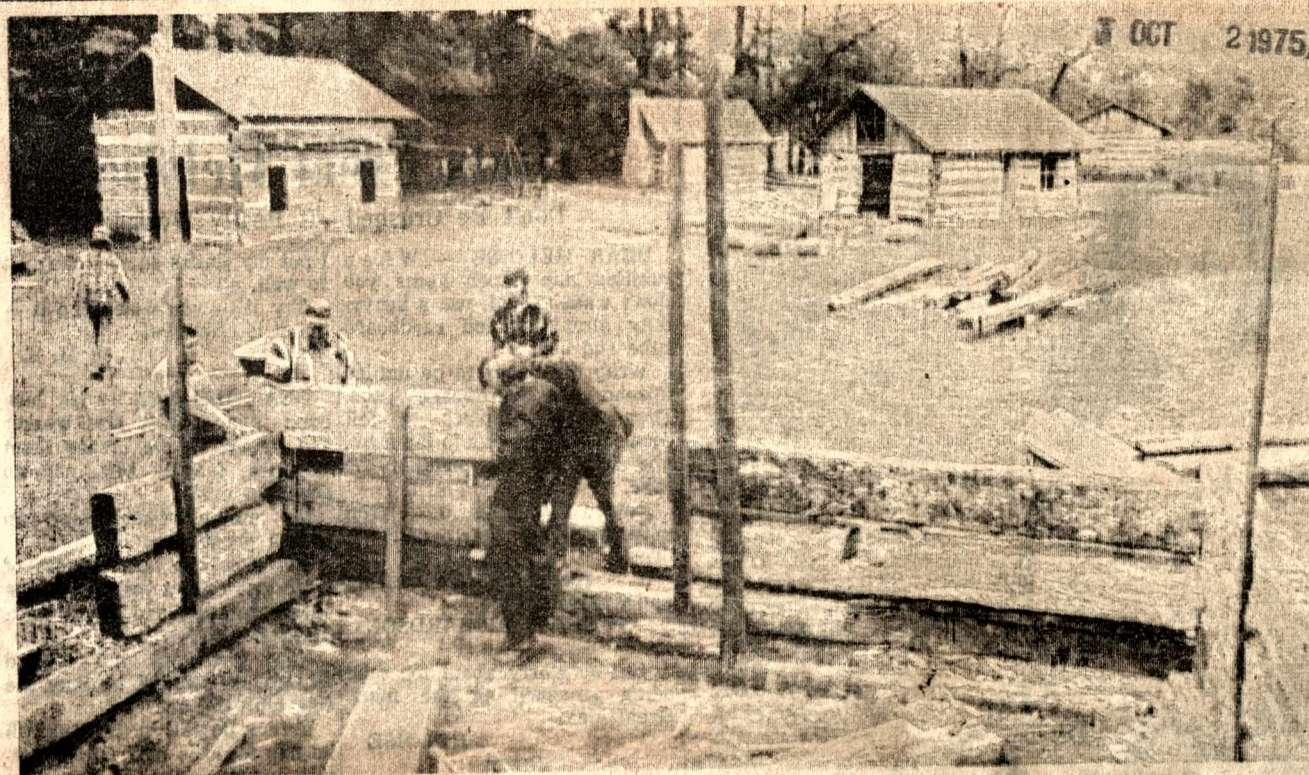
VIGO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

DO NOT CIRCULATE REFERENCE

Community Affairs File *Parks (Vigo)*





**PIONEER PAST IS PRESENT** — Preparations are in progress for Pioneer Days Saturday and Sunday at Fowler Park located six miles south of Terre Haute east of U.S. 41. Pictured here are Keith Ruble, Vigo County Park Superintendent, at right, and workers as they labored Wednesday

at the Pioneer Village site where there are five log cabins, one of which was built in 1822. Pioneer Days will feature demonstrations of old fashioned crafts, a Flea Market, a bean dinner Saturday and a beef stew meal Sunday.

*Parks and Recreation (Vigo Co.)*

**REFERENCE  
DO NOT CIRCULATE**

*Community Affairs File*

*Vigo County Public Library*



OCT. 1972

## Log Cabin Celebration at Fowler Park

Plans for a sesquicentennial celebration this weekend at Fowler Park continue although weather remains threatening.

The celebration will observe the 150th year of a log cabin which stands at the entrance to the county-owned park. Scheduled for the two-day affair, Saturday and Sunday, are quilting bees, flea market, hay rides, square dancing and other 19th century entertainments.

At 3 p.m. Sunday, Dorothy Clark, secretary of the Vigo County Historical Society will present a plaque of appreciation

to Mrs. Lillian Dubbs, who gave the log cabin to the park department in 1970. The cabin was part of the home of Mrs. Dubbs' parents, Dan and Iva Woods, and stood in Riley Township.

Several Riley churches and civic groups will be participating in the birthday celebration. The public is also invited to attend.

OCT  
1972

VIGO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

REFERENCE  
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Community Affairs File

Parks (Vigo)





**FISHING, BOATING POPULAR** — Martha Carson, 11, Fayetteville, Ark., tries her luck with a fishing pole at Fowler Park. She is visiting relatives in Terre Haute. In the boat

are her brother, Neil Carson, 15, left, and a companion, Robert Steward, 16, 3039 S. 6th St. Photo by Martin.

for the hiking trails, primitive camping, nature study and collection of fossils in abundant supply.

Norris says two hiking trails will be mapped out on the crests of the spoilbanks. One will be about one-half mile in length, the other about a mile, he said. Crown vetch has been sown on the spoilbanks to check soil erosion, and also to add a touch of beauty to the park setting.

Also in the planning stage is a concessions stand, Norris reports. He says the Vigo County Highway Department plans to resurface the present dirt roads through the park, providing the county council okays the money budget.

Last winter hundreds of youngsters and adults took advantage of supervised ice-skating at the park. Skating is on the agenda again this year. Norris uses the local news media to announce the ice-skating schedule at the park.

#### **Fishing Offered**

Fishing is permitted from

6:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. from April 1 to Oct. 31, and from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. beginning Nov. 1 and continuing through March 31. No hunting, firearms or shooting of any kind is allowed in Fowler Park.

Captain Fowler, who was only 34 when he lost his life in Bien Hoa Province, had been in Vietnam only seven months. He was serving as a U. S. adviser to South Vietnamese forces. His body lies among other war heroes in Arlington National Cemetery on the banks of the Potomac River.

His widow, Mrs. Mary Lou Fowler, and the couple's two children, Stephen, 8, and Genie Lou, 12, reside at 811 W. Prospect Ave. Captain Fowler was a native of Terre Haute, and had been on active duty about five years.

Norris, who was graduated from Indiana University in 1958 with a bachelor of science degree in recreation, is working toward his master's degree in

the same field at Indiana State University.

Before coming here on April 1, 1967, Norris headed the recreation department for Clinton, Iowa. He is a native of Fort Wayne, and has 10 years experience in the park and recreation profession.

Norris and the park board members are hopeful of getting a measure of assistance from the county council in next year's budget. They are asking for \$35,000 for park maintenance and the planned improvements.

Some folks have asked how to get to Fowler Park. From

Terre Haute, the best route is down U. S. Highway 41 to Stuckey's Pecan Shop, turn east and follow the signs.

Once you get there, you may not want to leave.

Community Affairs File

DO NOT CIRCULATE  
REFERENCE

TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA  
VIGO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
Property of  
Vigo County Historical Society



**Pioneer ways relived**

*Parks + Recreation (Vigo Co)*

Community Affairs File

# Early customs at Fowler Park

OCT 3 1977



**FALL HARVEST TREAT** — Fresh apple butter and cider have always been a treat in Hoosierland. Fowler Park was a good place to see the work involved in making the treats during the annual Pioneer Days sponsored by the Vigo County Park and Recreation Department. Modern day pioneers Dale Robertson, Ralph Pound and Jack Bracken test their skills at the apple press.

House of Photography Photos



**HOMINY AND PUMPKIN BREAD** — Dorcas Dial and Sally Traverse tend the cooking kettles as batches of hominy and pumpkin bread steam in the pioneer settlement. The aroma from the kettles tempted visitors to the park.

Community Affairs File

Vigo County Public Library

REFERENCE  
DO NOT CIRCULATE

*(over)*





**BUTCHERING DAY RECALLED** — Vigo County farmers demonstrate the method of butchering a hog similar to the way pioneers prepared food for their families years ago.



**LOADING UP** — Sam Henderson, Brazil, a member of the Fort Minglewood Long Rifles, packs the powder into his long rifle and prepares to demonstrate its use. The Long Rifles were among groups showing pioneer crafts at the park.



*Parks and Recreation (Vigo Co.)*  
**County acquires 'new' primitives**  
*Community Affairs File*  
**Collection earmarked for Fowler Park's Pioneer Village**

*MAR 5 1978*  
By CAROLYN TOOPS  
Tribune Staff Writer

The Vigo County Park and Recreation Department will soon be doing some interior decorating in the log cabins and barn at the Pioneer Village at Fowler Park, deciding where to best display a collection of 33 "new" authentic primitives.

The items, ranging from apple butter churning equipment to a washboard, are valued at about \$1,400, County Park Superintendent Keith Ruble said.

They were recently donated by Mr. and Mrs. Howard F. Williams, 121 E. Lawrin Blvd., who have been collecting them for many years. The couple formerly owned a log cabin at Cataract Lake. Most of the larger pieces were included when the property was sold.

The remaining items were on display at the Bonanza Restaurant here for about a year, Williams said. The couple decided to give them to the county park department to help furnish the log cabins the Pioneer Village.

Mrs. Williams said "they just didn't fit into our new house." She and her husband are both glad that others will have the chance to see and enjoy the collection in its new "natural habitat." They began collecting primitives years ago. Wil-

liams, a salesman, visited antique shops and flea markets wherever he was. The couple is originally from Illinois, but have lived most of their lives in Indiana.

The gift is indeed welcome to Ruble and assistant park superintendent Chet Burkeybyle. The cabins and log barn at Fowler Park are only partially furnished at present.

The Williams collection includes an assortment of household items — fireplace waffle irons and toasters, cornbread pan, washboard, a bottle capper and and old style pop bottle with leather seal — as well as several tools.

These include a hand made pipe wrench, tinsnips, meat saw and hog splitting knife. Also, there's a hay rake, a froe for making wooden shingles, a cow guard, grass cutter, and broad ax (1864) for hewing.

Other items are a bee smoker, a shoe cobbler's workbench, a wine keg opener, a wine press and a lard press, a tree saw and ice tongs.

All in all, it was like "Christmas in February" for Ruble and Burkeybyle, when Mr. and Mrs. Williams presented the valuable articles to the park department.

*(over)*

REFERENCE

Community Affairs File

DO NOT CIRCULATE

Vigo County Public Library





**DONATE "PRIMITIVES" TO PARK** — Mr. and Mrs. Howard Williams, 121 E. Lawrin Blvd in a "modified American Gothic pose," display several of the primitives they recently donated to the Vigo County Park and Recreation Department. The assorted items, 33 in all, will be used in the log cabins and barn in the Pioneer Village at Fowler Park to enhance the authentic, long-ago look. The couple is shown here with a hay rake, apple butter churn paddle, miner's lamp, cow guard and wagon wheel. The collection they gave to the Park Department is valued at \$1,400.

House of Photograph



Community Affairs File TS SEP 4 1977  
**Pioneer Days ahead**

*Parks and Recreation, Vigo Co.*

**Plans 'moving right along'  
for festival scheduled Oct. 1, 2**

By CAROLYN TOOPS  
Tribune Staff Writer

Preparations for the fifth annual Pioneer Days at Fowler Park on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 1 and 2, are "moving right along," according to Keith Ruble, superintendent of the Vigo County Park and Recreation Department.

The local fall festival centers on the growing Pioneer Village near the park entrance where a bank barn is being completed to join the six cabins in the little settlement.

Activities are scheduled at 9 a.m. both days and are to continue until dark. New this year will be a display of horse drawn farm equipment from Purdue University's ag alumni.

Also, the locally famous Irishman's Covered Bridge, which is now located at Fowler Park, will be the site of an art show at this year's festival. Displays of works will be placed in the bridge, and several area artists plan to demonstrate their skills during the festival.

The West Vigo Band Boosters will serve a bean dinner at noon Saturday (using outdoor kettle cookery) and beef stew at noon Sunday for park visitors who don't want to bring a picnic lunch.

Country and western music will be featured both afternoons, and there'll be wagon rides around the park for young and old.

At the cabins, old fashioned crafts and skills will be demonstrated. The list includes spinning, soap making, quilting, candle dipping, butter churning, hog butchering, hominy making, pumpkin cooking, home baking, weaving, shingle making, rail splitting, blacksmithing, chair caning, log boring, and (something else new)

pitchfork making. Apple cider will be made on the spot.

Visitors can see the herb garden around the cabins, started last year.

The Fort Minglewood Long Rifles will be back again this year, demonstrating muzzle loading and powder preparation.

The flea market this year will be limited to antiques, artwork, rocks and fossils, vegetable and homemade pastries, Ruble said. Information about booth space may be obtained by calling the Park Department, 232-4074, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. weekdays.

For campers who plan to spend the festival weekend at the park, 69 sites with electrical hookups, and about 30 to 40 for primitive camping are to be available.

Pioneer Days will capitalize on fall foliage and scenery, as well as the nostalgic trip to bygone days (early 1800s). Several park employees will wear clothing patterned after that worn by the early settlers. Visitors can get into the spirit of the event and dress in costume.

The park offers two walking trails and a horse trail, as well as picnic facilities and fishing. Admission is free, but there is a charge for camping.

*(over)*

Community Affairs File

Vigo County Public Library

REFERENCE  
DO NOT CIRCULATE





**THE LITTLE LOG VILLAGE** — Fowler Park will be the scene of the fifth annual Pioneer Days fall festival scheduled Oct. 1 and 2, sponsored by the Vigo County Park and Recreation Department. Steve Fonner, dressed in pioneer-style work

clothes squares up a log with a foot adze for a log smoke house. The Pioneer Village has six cabins and a nearly completed bank barn. Pioneer skills and crafts will be demonstrated during the festival.

House of Photography Photo



# Fowler Park workers preparing for weekend Pioneer Days crowds

SEP 27 1977

Community Affairs File

By CAROLYN TOOPS

Tribune Staff Writer

"Everything's lined up for the fifth annual Pioneer Days Festival this weekend at Fowler Park," Vigo County Park and Recreation Superintendent Keith Ruble reported to the board during its meeting Monday afternoon at the American Red Cross Building.

The local fall festival Saturday and Sunday is expected to attract thousands of visitors to the park located about 10 miles south of Terre Haute, just off U.S. 41.

The main attractions are the little Pioneer Village near the park entrance, a covered bridge, and fall foliage.

Ruble said that the "new" bank barn (actually, it's a combination of old and new) is almost completed. It joins six authentic log cabins in the little settlement. The superintendent urges visitors to tour the "combination" building, which provides a large meeting room and an interpretative center for the Pioneer Village at the lower level, as well as storage space on the upper level for park equipment and materials.

Activities are scheduled to begin about 9 a.m. Saturday and Sunday and continue until dark. Demonstrations of pioneer skills are scheduled for both days. There'll also be music and wagon rides, and hearty "grub" prepared the old fashioned way by the West Vigo Band Boosters for festival visitors who don't want to bring picnic lunches.

Art will abound, with a show inside the covered bridge.

Ruble hopes to make arrangements with local artist Allen Hackney to do portraits for interested persons at \$10 each during the festival. Appointments should be made as soon as possible through the park department, by calling 232-7074 or 232-7652.

An added attraction will be Indian dancing Saturday and Sunday afternoons by members of Boy Scout Troop 24, under the leadership of Owen Antrim. The group is called Ani-Tsu-Tsa (Cherokee for boys), Ruble said.

The flea market will be limited to antiques, artwork, rocks and fossils, etc. in keeping with authentic pioneer ways.

Admission to Fowler Park is free. However there is a charge for camping. Two walking trails, a horse trail, picnic facilities and fishing are available for visitors.

While the emphasis this week is primarily on Fowler Park and the festival, the county park board also turned its attention at the Monday meeting to other facilities operated by the department.

The board approved a \$7,000 appropriation request for purchase of equipment (including picnic tables) and preparation of basketball goals and blacktopping the court at the George and Ida Smith Park in Prairieton. Land for the community park was donated by the Virginia Phelps family, along with a cash gift. Work has been under way this summer at the site.

Also, the park board approved spending \$3,000 for a building at Prairie Creek Park to house the maple syrup making equipment. This area is being developed as a Vigo County maple camp. Work will begin on this log structure after the Pioneer Days festival.

A report on repairs necessary at the custodian's house at Fowler Park will be made at the October board meeting, Ruble said.

The superintendent also reported that he has been conducting daily tours (sometime two a day) at Hunt's Nature Center for classes since school began this year.

REFERENCE  
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Vigo County Public Library

Community Affairs File



SUNDAY PICTORIAL

Vigo County Public Library

Parks & Recreation (Vigo)

REFERENCE

DO NOT CIRCULATE

# Rotogravure

THE  
TERRE HAUTE  
TRIBUNE-STAR

September 24, 1978

TERRE HAUTE,  
INDIANA

Community Affairs File

## Pioneer Days Coming Up At Fowler Park

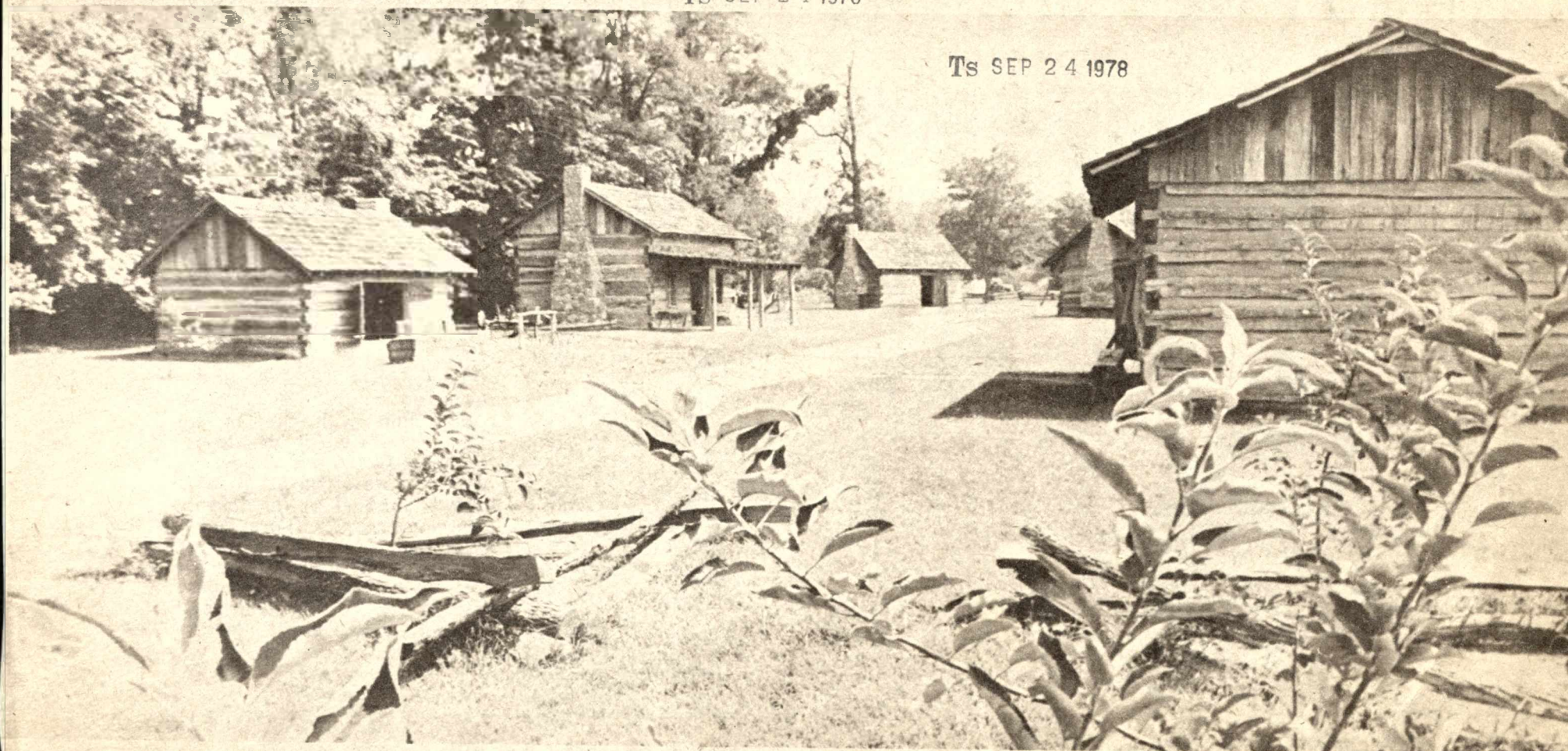
PIONEER DAYS AT FOWLER PARK — The Vigo County Park and Recreation Department extends a cordial invitation to one and all to visit Fowler Park's Pioneer Village during the sixth annual Pioneer Days observance Saturday, Sept. 30 and Sunday, Oct. 1. The little settlement near the park entrance includes several authentic log cabins. Assistant park superintendent Chet Burkeybyle is shown here adjusting one of the lanterns in the old general store. Demonstrations of pioneer skills will be featured during the two-day event.

House of Photography

Ts SEP 24 1978



Ts SEP 24 1978



Ts SEP 24 1978



Vigo Co.  
Recreation  
Volunteer Work  
Is Praised at  
Fowler Park

Volunteer efforts for progress at Fowler Park were reported Tuesday by David Beres, Vigo County Park and Recreation Department superintendent.

Citing the Vigo County Fort Harrison Sycamores for "an outstanding job," in clearing additional campsites, Beres praised several local groups presently engaged in various projects at the county's first park located near U. S. 41 about six miles south of Terre Haute.

In addition to the Sycamores, local chapter of the National Campers and Hikers Association, the American Federation of Teachers local union organization, a group of apprentice bricklayers from IVTech and other individuals and groups are contributing time and effort to improvements.

About 30 members of the camping club brought much of their own equipment to the park last weekend and cleared an area equivalent to 27 additional campsites plus extra recreational area during the two-day outing. Plans for that project were completed earlier in discussions by Beres, Ollen Gxendine, park foreman, and Harry Steward, conservation director of the Sycamores chapter. The hikers group plans additional park improvement projects for the future.

The teachers' union membership will join efforts again next weekend in their continuing project to reconstruct a 100-year-old log cabin found in the demolition of a Riley home which had been built around the primitive structure.

The student bricklayers, meanwhile, will continue work begun earlier on the fireplace for the park's main shelter.

Beres reported that numerous other groups currently are planning projects for Fowler Park to be announced in the near future.



Fowler Park

Community Affairs File

## Ruble Seeks Cooperation

APR 22 1974

Keith Ruble, superintendent of the (Vigo County) Park and Recreation Department, asks the cooperation of fishermen in improving largemouth bass population and fishing at the lake at Fowler Park.

In keeping with recommendations on bass size minimums from the Department of Natural Resources on state-owned waters, Ruble asks that bass under 14 inches be returned to the lake.

"Hopefully, with the cooperation of fishermen, Fowler Park lake will have a greater population of keeper-size bass, and the over-population of bluegills will decline," Ruble said.



# FOWLER PARK

## Vigo Co. Recreation Park Entrance Fee Proposal Turned Down

By JACK A. HUGHES  
Tribune Staff Writer

The Vigo County Park and Recreation Board turned down a proposal to establish an entrance fee for Fowler Park in its July meeting Tuesday which saw approval of a 1972 operating budget proposal fixed at \$105,335.

The fee proposal will remain under consideration, although it was noted that income from that source will not reduce tax revenue needed for operation, according to department Superintendent Dave Beres who said that admission fee income would, by law, go into the special non-reverting capital fund.

Other board action repeated the customary request for a 10-cent tax rate to build that special fund for park expansion and capital improvement projects. The current rate is three cents which raised approximately \$60,000 last year.

Progress reports on expansion-improvement project proposals in the Otter Creek Watershed (north of Seelyville) and in Prairie Creek await surveys currently underway in those areas and a land purchase agreement remains to be completed for a proposed nature study refuge to be operated in com-

Continued on Page 2, Col. 2.

## Vigo Co. Recreation Fee Proposal

Continued From Page One.

junction with Indiana State University.

The meeting also saw the announcement of a picnic for all blind residents of Vigo County, sponsored by the department, to be held July 31 at Fowler Park. A city bus will provide transportation with Meadows Center the pick-up point, according to the announcement which stated that the bus will leave the shopping center at 10:30 a.m. The picnic is scheduled for 11 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Refreshments and entertainment will be provided by individuals and organizations to be reported in a later news release.



## Park Entrance Fee Proposal Turned Down

By JACK A. HUGHES  
Tribune Staff Writer

The Vigo County Park and Recreation Board turned down a proposal to establish an entrance fee for Fowler Park in its July meeting Tuesday which saw approval of a 1972 operating budget proposal fixed at \$165,335.

The fee proposal will remain under consideration, although it was noted that income from that source will not reduce tax revenue needed for operation, according to department Superintendent Dave Beres who said that admission fee income would, by law, go into the special non-reverting capital fund.

Other board action repeated the customary request for a 10-cent tax rate to build that special fund for park expansion and capital improvement projects. The current rate is three cents which raised approximately \$60,000 last year.

Progress reports on expansion-improvement project proposals in the Otter Creek Watershed (north of Seelyville) and in Prairie Creek await surveys currently underway in those areas and a land purchase agreement remains to be completed for a proposed nature study refuge to be operated in con-

Continued on Page 2, Col. 2.

TERRE HAUTE TRIB.

## Fee Proposal

TERRE HAUTE TRIB.  
Continued From Page One.

junction with Indiana State University.

The meeting also saw the announcement of a picnic for all blind residents of Vigo County, sponsored by the department, to be held July 31 at Fowler Park. A city bus will provide transportation with Meadows Center the pick-up point, according to the announcement which stated that the bus will leave the shopping center at 10:30 a.m. The picnic is scheduled for 11 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Refreshments and entertainment will be provided by individuals and organizations to be reported in a later news release.



# ✓ Parks + Recreation Log Cabin Celebration at Fowler Park

Community Affairs File

Plans for a sesquicentennial celebration this weekend at Fowler Park continue although weather remains threatening.

The celebration will observe the 150th year of a log cabin which stands at the entrance to the county-owned park. Scheduled for the two-day affair, Saturday and Sunday, are quilting bees, flea market, hay rides, square dancing and other 19th century entertainments.

At 3 p.m. Sunday, Dorothy Clark, secretary of the Vigo County Historical Society will present a plaque of appreciation

## MYSTERY CLEARED

NORTH BAY, N.Y. (UPI)—The 36-year-old mystery of what happened to the gas in the power shovel in the gravel pit has been cleared up.

A local official said Thursday he had received the following note:

"To whom it may concern: In 1936 I stole some gas from the power shovel in the gravel pit. Enclosed find check for \$5 to pay for same." The sender's name was not released.

to Mrs. Lillian Dubbs, who gave the log cabin to the park department in 1970. The cabin was part of the home of Mrs. Dubbs' parents, Dan and Iva Woods, and stood in Riley Township.

Several Riley churches and civic groups will be participating in the birthday celebration. The public is also invited to attend.

## T-Men Seize Big Arms Cache

CHICAGO (UPI)—An estimated million rounds of ammunition and large quantities of explosives and weapons, including a rocket launcher, have been seized by U.S. Treasury Agents in a raid on a northeastern Illinois farm, it was announced Thursday.

Agents said they arrested the owner of the Hampshire, Ill., farm, Anthony Scherer, 40, a gun dealer whose license renewal application was denied last month, and Matthew Sytkowski, 38, Lake Forest.

Scherer was charged with unlawful sale of firearms and was freed on \$40,000 bond. Sytkowski was charged with complicity in the sales and was freed on \$5,000 bond.

Authorities said the arms cache included 70 handguns and some military-type weapons which would have been illegal to sell even if Scherer had had a gun selling license.

Officials said the raid culminated a year-long investigation.

## AFL-CIO Split

Continued From Page One.

cil's position of neutrality does not bar individual unions from endorsing candidates. About 40 unions have endorsed McGovern. A few others have endorsed Nixon.

## McGovern Hits Trio of Cities In Midwest

CHICAGO (AP) — Sen. George McGovern, confronted with the suggestion that many Americans fear he wants to tax away their money for welfare, has dismissed it as "pure poppycock" stemming from Republican propaganda.

McGovern said he does not intend to raise "the taxes of people who live on wages and salaries by one penny." He added that people shouldn't worry about his plan to increase inheritance taxes, either.

Chicago, Des Moines and Kansas City were McGovern's campaign itinerary today. It was at a Cleveland stop Thursday that the tax-and-welfare question was put to him.

"There is still concern expressed by many citizens, even of very moderate means, that if you're elected their income might be practically confiscated and given to those who won't work," a man told McGovern as the Democratic nominee answered questions at the Cleveland City Club.

"Of course this is the Republican line," McGovern replied. "It's pure poppycock. . . . If you live entirely on wages and salaries, there is nothing in my tax proposals that would increase your taxes."

Furthermore, McGovern said, his overhauled welfare proposals would provide no assistance for people who are able to work. He said "the only people entitled to welfare" are those whose age, disability or family situation prevents them from working.

In Chicago today, McGovern accused Republicans of attempting to discourage minority-voter registration "in order to divide the community for the sake of partisan gain."

In a statement prepared for a meeting of black clergymen, McGovern said there were reliable reports that four years

taxes on investment income and on corporations. He has proposed elimination of the capital-gains tax break, advocating taxation of investment income at the same rate as wages.

## EVANSVILLE AFL-CIO COUNCIL DEFIES MEANY

EVANSVILLE, Ind. (AP)—The Evansville Central Labor Council of the AFL-CIO has defied its national president, George Meany, and voted to retain its endorsement of Democratic presidential candidate George McGovern.

The council is composed of about 70 representatives of 11,000 workers in 62 affiliated unions in the Evansville area. It voted Thursday night to "receive and file" a letter from Meany ordering the council to rescind its endorsement, given last week.

Meany said the endorsement violated the national AFL-CIO's neutrality policy in the presidential campaign.

## SURGEONS BABY'S BRAIN BACK IN SKULL

SAN JOSE, Calif. (UPI)—A six-month-old Mexican boy reported in excellent health today following a brain operation which part of his skull was removed inside his head.

A four-hour operation performed Thursday by M. Torres who was congenitally defective portion of his brain through his skull eye.

The bulging part of the boy's brain was removed by a layer of skull. Nine doctors performed the protruding portion of the skull and opening with a scalpel. That, in turn, was a membrane to seal the child's thigh.

The team of

## COOPER

Children 50c — Friday — Saturday

WALT DISNEY PRODUCTIONS

Bedknob Broomstick

ONECOMS

One Showing Only

MIC

m

NOT

NO ONE UNDER 17

age is required

DO NOT ADMIT

BY COM

ONECOMS

One Showing Only

MIC

m

NOT

NO ONE UNDER 17

age is required

DO NOT ADMIT

BY COM

ONECOMS

One Showing Only

MIC

UNDER THE STARS  
**BREEZEWAY**  
ADULT CINEMA 63  
LOCATED 5 MILES NORTH OF CLINTON ON HIGHWAY 63  
ADULTS ONLY  
SORRY, WE CANNOT USE TITLES BUT CALL 832-2819  
Adult movies in the privacy of your car.

**ROCKVILLE**  
DRIVE-IN  
FRI.-SAT.-SUN.  
**ALFRED HITCHCOCK'S 'FRENZY'**  
A UNIVERSAL RELEASE TECHNICOLOR  
PLUS  
"Magnificent 7 Ride"  
Rated 'R'

**PINKY & ANN'S COWSHED**  
Home of Country Music  
Listen and Dance to the Best in Country Music  
MONDAY NIGHT  
**JERRY & THE JOKERS**  
WED. FRI. SAT.  
THE COUNTRY WRANGLERS  
9:30 to 1:30  
Any kind of drink - Friendly atmosphere - 17th and HULMAN

**DRAGON INN**  
3631 WABASH AVE.  
PRESENTING  
**JEFF MITCHELL**  
AT THE ORGAN  
FRIDAY SPECIAL  
**SHRIMP WITH VEGETABLE**  
A new taste treat. Ocean-fresh shrimp prepared with exotic Chinese vegetables and served piping hot en casserole. With rice or noodles, wonton soup and sherbet.  
Regular \$3.75 ..... **\$2.75**  
CARRY-OUT ORDERS AVAILABLE-232 2294  
CALL JIM GRAHAM FOR PARTIES AND BANQUETS  
OPEN SUNDAYS

**2 FOR 1 SPECIAL**  
BUY ONE LARGE PIZZA AND GET ONE FREE  
WITH THIS COUPON  
DINE IN OR CARRY OUT - PHONE 466-1291  
**Pizza inn**





Forum seeking  
icipation in  
us for Health  
esday at the  
Health Depart-  
T.  
ed to the spe-  
legislators in-  
include prog-  
gency medical  
ign immunity  
ment and com-  
planning. ac-  
ce information  
Indiana Public  
n, Inc., based  
here, one of  
ld this month  
ate, will open  
emarks by Dr.  
an, Vigo Coun-  
sioner. Dr. W.  
nt of the West  
a Community  
will outline the  
meeting, after  
marks will be  
interested of-  
Dr. Goodman;  
Alan Willig;  
Vigo County  
Health Planning  
nd Paul M.

## Crucial Decisions Ahead in Ireland

By COLIN FROST

LONDON (AP) — Britain's plan for peace in Northern Ireland has achieved some success, but crisis is ahead. Crucial decisions are due in the next three weeks on a new form of government for the province. More than 900 persons have died there in four years of guerrilla war set off by Ireland's feud between Roman Catholic nationalists and British-thinking Protestants.

## Campaign Community Affairs File ches 56.5%

HUGHES  
ff Writer

was a big one  
ay of the Wa-  
movement to-  
al of the 1973  
ly overcame  
half-way mark  
among volun-  
ill to be build-  
ek, gifts and  
only about a  
s goal jumped  
centage points  
the most en-  
s of the cam-  
re received.  
is \$678,940 and  
progress re-  
n stood at 56.5  
e than \$383,000  
lation.  
ng way down  
week ago when  
d just 35 per-  
day's nominal  
ed.  
year's cam-  
and an opti-  
revealed from  
necessary lead-  
end of some

unit and divisional campaigns  
and the completion of their re-  
ports with final action gave the  
appearance of shorter success  
than facts later showed.  
Events this week revealed  
some of the bases for enthu-  
siasm which still characterizes  
this year's drive.  
The week began with the out-  
standing report from the giant  
CBS local complex which  
added \$75,500 to the 1973 UW  
campaign, marking another in-  
crease over preceding years  
in both employees and corporate  
gifts and pledges from that  
source. The total nearly  
doubled the 1964 figure when  
CBS participation began.  
But, no less encouragement  
came at the end of the week  
in Friday's report from Gart-  
land Foundry. The \$3,500 in that  
report according to officials,  
reflected remarkable civic  
spirit with an increase of 69  
percent over last year, in-  
cluding a 44 percent increase in  
the company's gift of \$1,300.  
Company officials themselves  
expressed great pride in em-  
ployee participation.  
Continued On Page 6, Col. 4

Participants also will include  
Mrs. Helen Scheibner of the In-  
diana State Board of Health,  
who is secretary of the IPHA,  
and Alex Kertis, ISBH Com-  
prehensive Health Planning  
Division administrative officer.  
Similar meetings are sched-  
uled for additional forums.  
Two legislative proposals have  
the support of the state health  
board, according to a report  
from that body. The report sup-  
ports the establishment of a  
Continued on Page 8, Col. 1.

The new government is in-  
tended to share power between  
Catholic and Protestant and  
end the long-standing Catholic  
complaint of discrimination in  
almost every field of life.  
Politicians prepared to go  
along with the British blueprint  
say they have made real prog-  
ress toward forming a power-  
sharing executive. Others, on  
the hardline Protestant side, in-  
sist they will wreck it — though  
by constitutional methods.  
The Catholic-based Irish Re-  
publican Army, skilled in  
bombing and sniping, wants no  
part of any settlement that  
does not give it power in an all-  
Ireland republic. Equally  
skilled bombers and assassins  
on the extreme Protestant  
fringe equally reject any settle-  
ment that gives Catholic nation-  
alists a say in running their  
lives.  
Londonderry, the province's  
second city, is a wreck. Belfast,  
the capital, keeps a semblance  
of normality and a surprising  
economic vitality despite re-  
peated bombings.  
The heart has been torn out  
of dozens of smaller towns.  
Britain's attempt to douse the  
violence reached its peak in  
March 1972 with the dissolution  
of the Protestant-run provincial  
parliament and cabinet. Wil-  
liam Whitelaw, a 53-year-old  
Continued On Page 7, Col. 7

## The Weather

By National Weather Service

TERRE HAUTE AND VICINITY—Most-  
ly sunny Sunday with a warming trend.  
Fair Sunday night. Highs Sunday upper  
40s and low 50s. Lows Sunday night mid  
to upper 30s. Highs Monday mid to upper  
50s.  
INDIANA—Sunday mostly sunny and  
warmer. Sunday night partly cloudy and  
warmer. Monday partly sunny and warm-  
er. High Sunday 50s.  
ILLINOIS — Sunday mostly sunny and  
warmer. Sunday night partly cloudy and  
warmer. Monday partly sunny and warm-  
er. High Sunday 50s.  
OUTLOOK—Variable cloudiness and mild  
Tuesday through Thursday with chance  
of showers southeast half about Wednes-  
day night or Thursday. Highs mid 50s to  
mid 60s. Lows in the upper 30s to mid 40s.

mittee — which includes certain  
GOP congressmen, governors,  
and members of the Republican  
National Committee — and was  
considering several meetings  
with congressmen next week  
where the Watergate problems  
would be a topic of discussion.  
The next major development  
was expected Monday when  
Judge John J. Sirica resumes  
hearings on the White House  
claim that two key conversa-  
tions Nixon held with former  
Attorney General John N.  
Mitchell and ousted White  
House counsel John W. Dean  
III were never recorded.  
They were among nine  
purported taped conversations  
which Nixon agreed to turn  
over to Sirica for possible  
Continued on Page 8, Col. 2.

Gerald P. Carr, Edward G.  
Gibson and William R. Pogue  
—were getting another major  
physical checkup at the John-  
son Space Center in Houston.  
They originally had been  
scheduled for launch Saturday,  
but discovery of cracks in the  
vital stabilizing fins of the  
Saturn IB booster rocket forced  
a five-day delay for repairs.  
Officials said they expected  
to have half of the eight fins  
replaced by Sunday.  
Kennedy Space Center  
Launch Director Walter J.  
Kapryan said he would know  
Sunday if liftoff of the last trio  
of astronauts to man America's  
orbiting lab was going to come  
off as planned.  
Carr, Gibson and Pogue, all  
Continued On Page 6, Col. 2

## Jaycees Agree To Move Cabin

By CAROLYN TOOPS  
Tribune Staff Writer

The Terre Haute Jaycees have  
volunteered to assist the Vigo  
County Park and Recreation  
Department in moving the Ben  
Lidster log cabin from Riley to  
Fowler Park.  
Jaycees president Bob Dough-  
erty and about 15 or more mem-  
bers will report for duty at 9  
a.m. next Sunday, Nov. 18, to  
begin dismantling the building.  
Dougherty has issued a call to  
all former Jaycees who may  
also wish to work on the project.  
The cabin was donated to the  
Park Department by Lidster,  
84. He had lived there since 1935  
and recently moved to Pierson  
Township to make his home  
with a nephew, Harold Baker,  
and Mrs. Baker.  
Park Superintendent Keith  
Ruble and assistant superinten-  
dent Chet Burkeybyle will su-  
pervise the tearing down and  
setting up of the one and-a-half-  
story cabin which dates back  
to the 1820s.  
It will be re-constructed at the  
entrance to Fowler Park, join-  
ing the Dubbs cabin. These  
buildings form the nucleus of a  
pioneer village, similar to the  
one at Spring Mill State Park.  
Fowler Park has been the  
scene for a special fall weekend  
festival, Pioneer Days, for the  
past two years. With the addi-  
tion of more buildings, the  
events and activities, which  
have already proved to be very  
popular, will be expanded each  
year.

Burkeybyle said that the  
Jaycees have been asked to  
bring crowbars, hammers and  
extension ladders if possible.  
The park department will also  
furnish tools and ladders and  
will also have two pickup trucks,  
a tractor with front loader and  
a dump truck on hand.  
If the weather is too severe  
for outside work, Burkeybyle  
said they would begin inside,  
taking plaster off the walls. All  
debris will be hauled away im-  
mediately, he added.  
Exterior shingles will also  
have to be removed to reveal  
the original logs underneath be-  
fore the diagramming and num-  
bering of the various sections  
will begin.  
Directing this phase of the  
work will be Charles Hord Ray,  
Continued On Page 6, Col. 1

## Inside Today's TRIBUNE-STAR

|                   | Page  |
|-------------------|-------|
| Obituaries        | 22    |
| Editorials        | 4     |
| Society and Clubs | 61-68 |
| Youth Activities  | 41    |
| Farm News         | 26-27 |
| Sports            | 31-35 |
| State News        | 38    |
| Movies            | 42    |
| Markets           | 29    |
| Want Ads          | 45-59 |

Community Affairs File  
REFERENCE



## Jaycees Agree

TS NOV 11 1973

Continued From Page One.

RR 1, West Terre Haute. He is also expected to prepare the special mortar needed to reconstruct the cabin when all the logs are moved to Fowler Park.

Park officials estimate it will take several days to take the cabin down. Anyone wishing to volunteer is asked to call the

Park Department office weekdays between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Other work sessions will be scheduled.

## Skylab 3

Continued From Page One.

making their first space flight, are scheduled for a research mission of at least 60 days. If all has gone well after eight weeks in orbit, the crew will be

approved on a week-by-week basis, for a flight of up to 85 days.

A cold front moved through central Florida over the weekend, dropping nighttime temperatures into the mid 50s and bringing with it winds gusting above 20 mph.

Engineers working on the 24-story tail booster rocket had to use a giant crane to hoist the new tail fins into place, and the winds slowed the pace.

"Things are moving along but they're moving along rather slowly," Kapryan said. "The primary reason for the slowness is the care that is being exercised."

Fourteen little cracks, only 1½ inches long and ½ inch deep, were found in the tail fins during a routine inspection last week. Engineers blamed the damage on salty sea air and stress from tons of fuel loaded during a test.

Had the Saturn rocket been fired with the cracked fins, it probably would have swerved off course, forcing the astronauts to abort the mission.

## Everyone should finish High School

If 17 or over and have left school, write today to see how you can complete your H.S. education at home in spare time.

1897  
American School of Chicago,  
Dept. TH-89  
202 Edwards Ave.,  
Reech Grove, Indiana 46107—  
Indiana Reg. AC0011

Please send FREE Brochure

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Approved for Veteran Training  
Accredited Member National Home  
Study Council

## United Way

TS NOV 11 1973

Continued From Page One.

employee participation which added up to \$2,200, an 87 percent increase.

William Grimes, Gartland president, congratulated the employees, saying, "This is by far the best campaign that Gartland has had. We have a long history of working with the community since we went into business in 1902. We know the United Way needs the support of all business and industry throughout the Wabash Valley and we appreciate the share that our employees have provided."

That kind of participation was what Mrs. V. Ann Royse, 1973 UW chairwoman, had in mind late in the week as she repeated earlier assertions that "Every gift and pledge is important, regardless of size—and that's the kind of spirit we need to reach our goal this year."

The 1973 campaign extension, acknowledging the need for more time to give that spirit opportunity for success, aims toward success by Dec. 14.

## CAR-TRAIN CRASH TAKES TWO LIVES

BREESE, Ill. (AP)—Two persons were killed and another seriously injured Friday night in a car-train collision.

Police said Clara Ribbing, 83, and Cecilia Reilmann, 84, both of Breese, were killed when the car they were riding in collided with a train.

The driver, Gregory Ribbing, 55, also of Breese, was seriously injured.

The Nobel Peace Prize has been awarded posthumously only once, in 1961 to Dag Hammarskjöld.

## BARGAIN

INDIANA

Twelve-cent  
much many

An Indian  
advertised  
one to a cu  
88 cents ea  
fer was rep

"Let's see  
first," a w  
manded. S  
to the cash  
"Keep it."

After rec  
lower silve  
aged man  
known it  
sandwich  
have bough

## Kissing

Continued

the Himalaya

"Glad to s  
you make i

Kissinger sa

Vice Foreign

Kuan, who

China at th

Also on h

Kissinger we

ter Chi Peng

dor David K.

liaison office

Byangeline.

Kissinger

long, black

sine to the c

guest house

this ancient

two hours la

the banquet

by Chi Peng-f

Chou, wear

with Mao

Kissinger wa

hour recept

banquet.

Sitting wit

overstuffed

the Japanese

"cyclone" to

ger. "They sa

Middle East



# Fall Festival

## Set at Park

By JACK HUGHES  
Tribune Staff Writer

As the crisp air of an early fall frost quickens the pace of life in Vigo County and trees begin their autumn show in living color, Mother Nature exerts the force that unifies past and present in the Midwest.

In spite of the fact that we have more means to combat the discomfort of coming winter than did our ancestors, the very fact that combat is required links today with yesterday.

And that's what the celebration of Pioneer Days is all about, this weekend at Fowler Park.

Sponsored by the Vigo County Park & Recreation Department, the fall festival featuring work and play from yesteryear opens in its second annual presentation at the county park located about seven miles south of Terre Haute. Just follow the signs from U.S. 41 to the east.

Good food — and plenty of it — is promised, along with a host of activities, both for watching and participating, including games, contests, exhibits, rides, demonstrations of special crafts from the past, camping, hiking, fossil hunts, and many others.

Food features include a bean dinner Saturday and chicken-and-noodles on Sunday.

Special activities throughout the course of the two-day event include the finishing of a log cabin, the raising of which began at last year's celebration.

It's the second log cabin moved to the site and restored in a continuing program of

restoration looking toward the development of a complete village," complete with primitive furnishings of the early days," according to Keith Ruble, department superintendent.

The park boasts what is reputed to be the oldest covered bridge in Indiana, Irishman's Bridge, which still served the county on a road over Honey Creek near Riley until it was moved to the park for preservation a few years ago.

Irishman's Bridge is believed to have been built in 1845. Dating back even further is one of the log cabins in the park, an example of construction in 1822 and formerly located on the one-time Erie Canal, also near Riley.

Performances by the Ft. Minglewood Long Rifles, several musical groups including both instrumentalists and vocalists are among the Pioneer Days entertainment offerings as is a square dance.

A flea market is planned for presentation during the festival under the direction of Jean Clutter.

Ruble notes that regular features of the park, except swimming, will be available. These include the campgrounds with numerous sites for both primitive and modern camping; and trails for hiking and hunting of fossils, artifacts and relics.

Special demonstrations reportedly will include ironwork by a blacksmith; making of hominy, butter and headcheese; rail splitting and log hewing; and others.

Games are to include a cross-

cut sawing contest and a tug-of-war across one of the fingers of the lake. Proceeds from the tug-of-war are to go to the Cancer Society, Ruble notes. The losers get wet, free-of-charge.

And, if you're too tired to take advantage of the hiking trails to view the beauties of nature afoot, rides will be offered on a horse-drawn flat-bed wagon.

FOWLER



# Pioneer Days To Recall Heritage

Parks and Recreation (Vigo Co.) Community Affairs File  
By JOE BOLAND  
Star Staff Writer

If you haven't found out yet how great-grandpa and great-grandma hacked out a living, Fowler Park is the place to take a peek this weekend.

Keith Ruble, superintendent of the Vigo County Park and Recreation Department, said an extensive array of pioneer activities has been planned for the second annual Pioneer Days program scheduled at Fowler Park Saturday and Sunday.

A few hardy frontiersmen have almost completed a third log cabin near the entrance to the park, and it is expected the fourth will be raised as part of Pioneer Days activities.

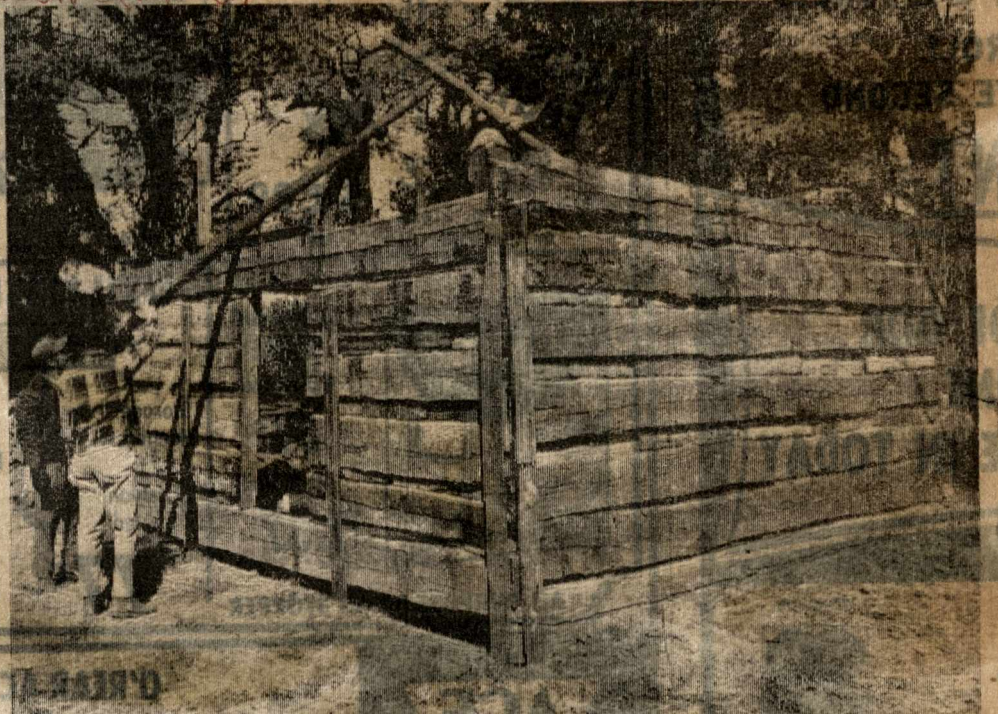
"Our goal is to construct an educational and historical place at Fowler Park where teachers can bring school children to study pioneer ways," Ruble said. "We eventually hope to have a complete pioneer village at the park," he said.

+++

Aside from the buildings, an integral part of the planned settlement is pioneer style tools, furniture and other artifacts.

See FESTIVAL

On Page 8, Column 2



**PIONEER DAYS** — A cabin raising will be among featured attractions at the second annual Pioneer Days program scheduled Saturday and Sunday at Fowler Park. Shown preparing the roof on a cabin Thursday are Vigo County Park Supl. Keith Ruble and Bill Shaw, on the ground, and Leon Johnson and Ranson Clawson, holding roof beams. The cabin is expected to be completed this weekend. (Photo by Kadel)

events planned for Saturday is a bean dinner at noon cooked by Future Business Leaders of America at West Vigo High School, a square dance featuring "The Wahash Wranglers," a tug-of-war and an old-fashioned pull across water. Proceeds are earmarked for the American Cancer Society.

+++

Sunday's schedule will feature a chicken-and-noodle dinner at noon also prepared by West Vigo pupils, a band concert at 2 p.m., a "Sunday Night Sing," and Fort Minglewood Long Rifles Shooting Meet and Tomahawk Demonstration.

On both days, there will be horse-drawn wagon rides, games, costume contests and raffles.

Continuous activities at the cabin area will include spinning, soap-making, quilting, bullet-making, churning, candle-dipping, hog butchering, milking and sauerkraut and hominy-making. There will also be a pig-roast sponsored by Kappa Sigma fraternity at Indiana State University.

In addition, there will be a flea market both days that will feature handthrown pottery and artwork, coins, antiques, rocks, fossils, vegetables and home-made pastries.

Activities will be continuous from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

## Festival

S OCT 4 1974  
Continued From Page 1

Ruble said the park welcomes gifts from area residents and that all such gifts will be acknowledged by a permanent plaque in the display area.

Several items have already been donated for the existing cabins, but much more is needed, Ruble said.

"The primary aim of the weekend program," he said, "is to bring more of an historical awareness of the early settlers to everyone in the county."

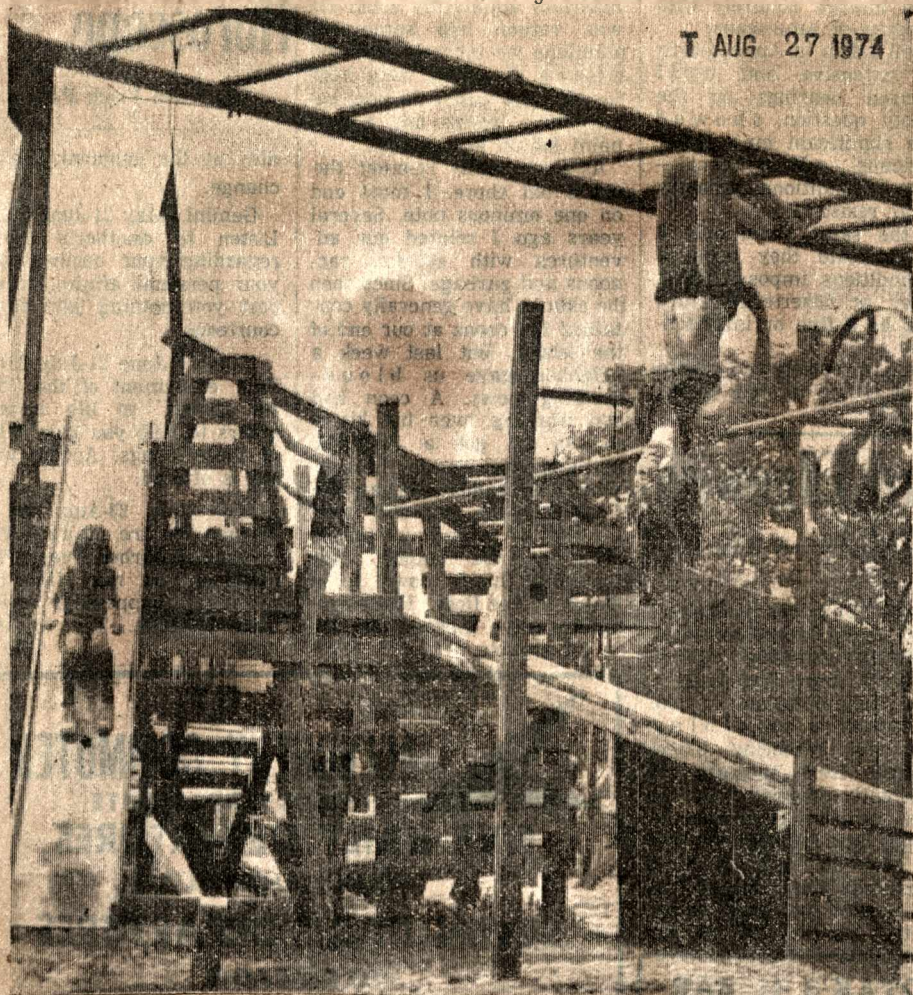
Included on the schedule of

Vigo County Public Library  
Community Affairs File

REFERENCE  
DO NOT CIRCULATE



T AUG 27 1974



FUTURE GYMNASTS? Maybe . . . Right now, it's purely and simply a lot of fun to try out the new "Adventure Playground" at Fowler Park, south of Terre Haute. A few days before school opened, Sheri Collins, 7; her sister Debbie, 12; Janeen Bennett, 12, and Terry Howard, 14, were among those at the park, and were quick to demonstrate a few of the ways kids can enjoy the unique wood playground.

*Park & Recreation (Vigo Co.)*

REFERENCE  
DO NOT CIRCULATE

*Fowler Park*

T AUG 27 1974



A FIREMAN'S POLE at a playground? . . . Yes, at Fowler Park, and Sheri Collins, 7, is ready to slide down as her sister Debbie, 12, does a little climbing. The special wood playground was designed by two artists in residence at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College and built as a project of the Vigo County Park and Recreation Department. The unique construction has attracted favorable comment from many recreation experts throughout the U.S.

*House of Photography Photo.*

Community Affairs File

Vigo County Public Library



Fowler Park

## Fowler Park X T.H. Parks Improvement to T.H. Feb. 12/4/68 Be Discussed

A meeting of the Vigo County Board of Parks and Recreation with the County Council and the Board of County Commissioners to examine development plans for Fowler Park, is expected in the near future, according to Park and Recreation Department Superintendent Richard Norris.

The report was coupled with release of information that \$26,000 in federal-state assistance sought earlier for the first county park will not be available until 1970 at the earliest, if at all.

This advice came to county park officials from John Mitchell, director of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, who reported that of 26 applications for assistance in the state, only eight were funded.

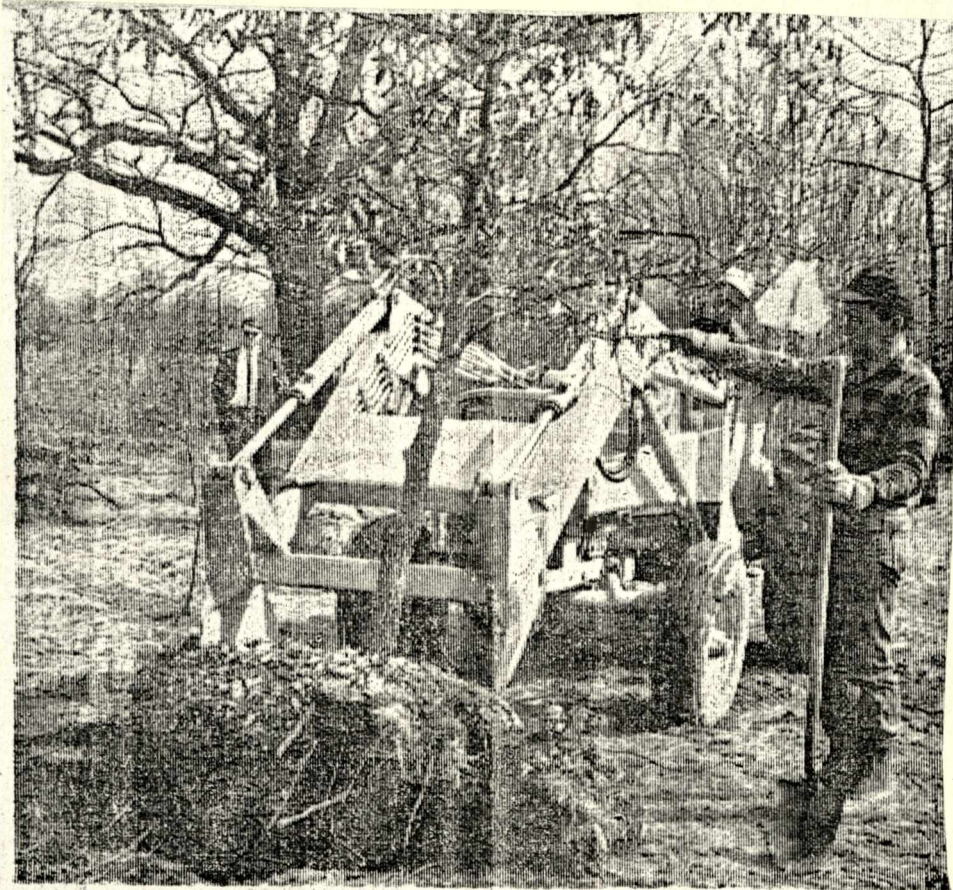
Norris noted that only two of those eight, Harrison County and Hammond, are classed as development projects, the other six still in the land acquisition stage. He added that about two-thirds of the total of funds allowed went to land acquisition while approximately \$142,000 was directed to the development.

The county park board may leave its application as it stands with the hope that review next year will result in approval, based on a point system devised by the federal Bureau of Outdoor Recreation. However, this would defer any extensive development of Fowler Park until 1970, Norris said.

The department superintendent added that the decision to be made lies in a choice between going ahead with local funds in development plans or waiting for funds from state and federal sources.

Meanwhile, an application for the larger Otter Creek Watershed development north of Seelyville, basically a flood control project with recreation plans incorporated, awaits approval in a separate program. Norris said that the decision on Fowler Park, as far as the state-federal assistance application was concerned, had no connection with the outlook for the larger project.





MOVING DAY for this young oak in Fowler Park came this week with the start of a County Park and Recreation Board project to rearrange some of Nature's work. Using the new hydraulic tree spade recently acquired by the department, park workmen Olen Oxendine on the tractor) and Herb Wild (with the old fashioned spade) moved about 2,000 pounds of tree and earth-ball to a better spot in well under an hour. Trib.-Star 3-9-69



# Fowler Park Development

T. H. TRIBUNE-STAR.

Sunday, Aug. 4, '68

51

Community Affairs File

## Plans Advance

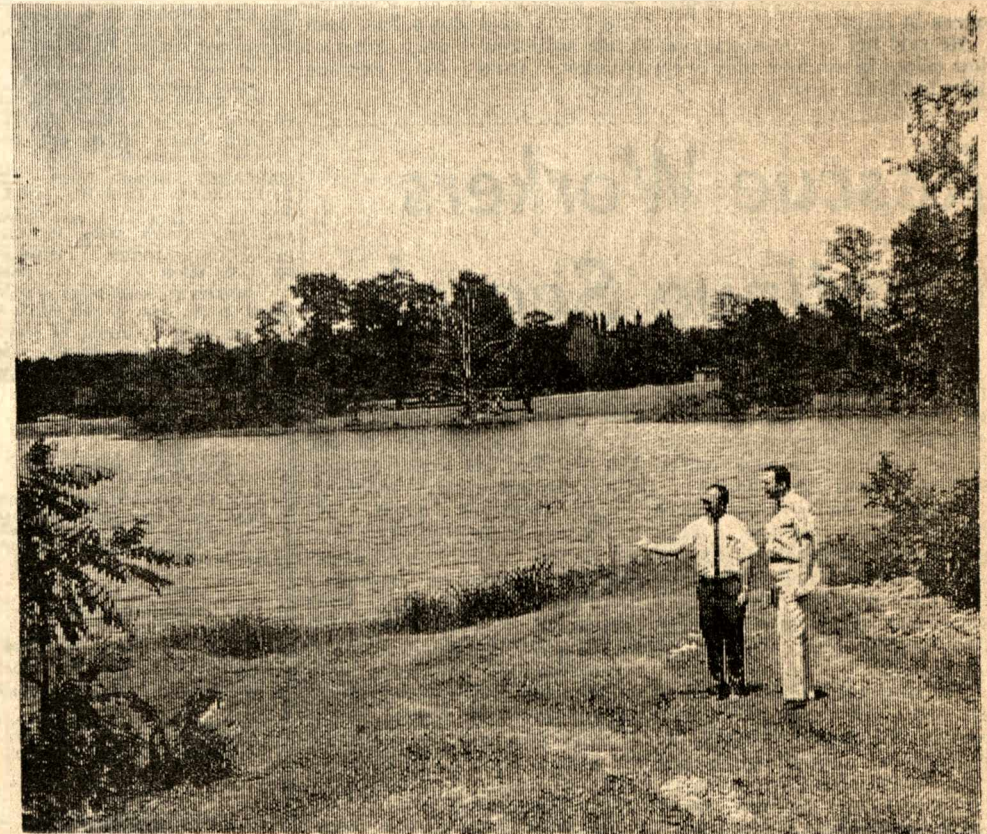
VIGO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

Property of  
Vigo County Historical Society



**CHOICE PARK PICNIC SETTING** — A grill at Fowler Park gets the once-over from Richard D. Norris, county park director, as a park visitor looks on. On the right is one of 12 new fiberglass picnic tables recently placed in the park at a cost of \$45 each.

Photo by Martin.



**FISHING SPOT IN FOWLER PARK** — Richard D. Norris, left, director of the Vigo County Park and Recreation Department, points out some of the wonders of Fowler Park to a TRIBUNE reporter. The dam for the park lake is seen in the background at the left, and a new comfort station is visible in the right rear background.

Photo by Martin.

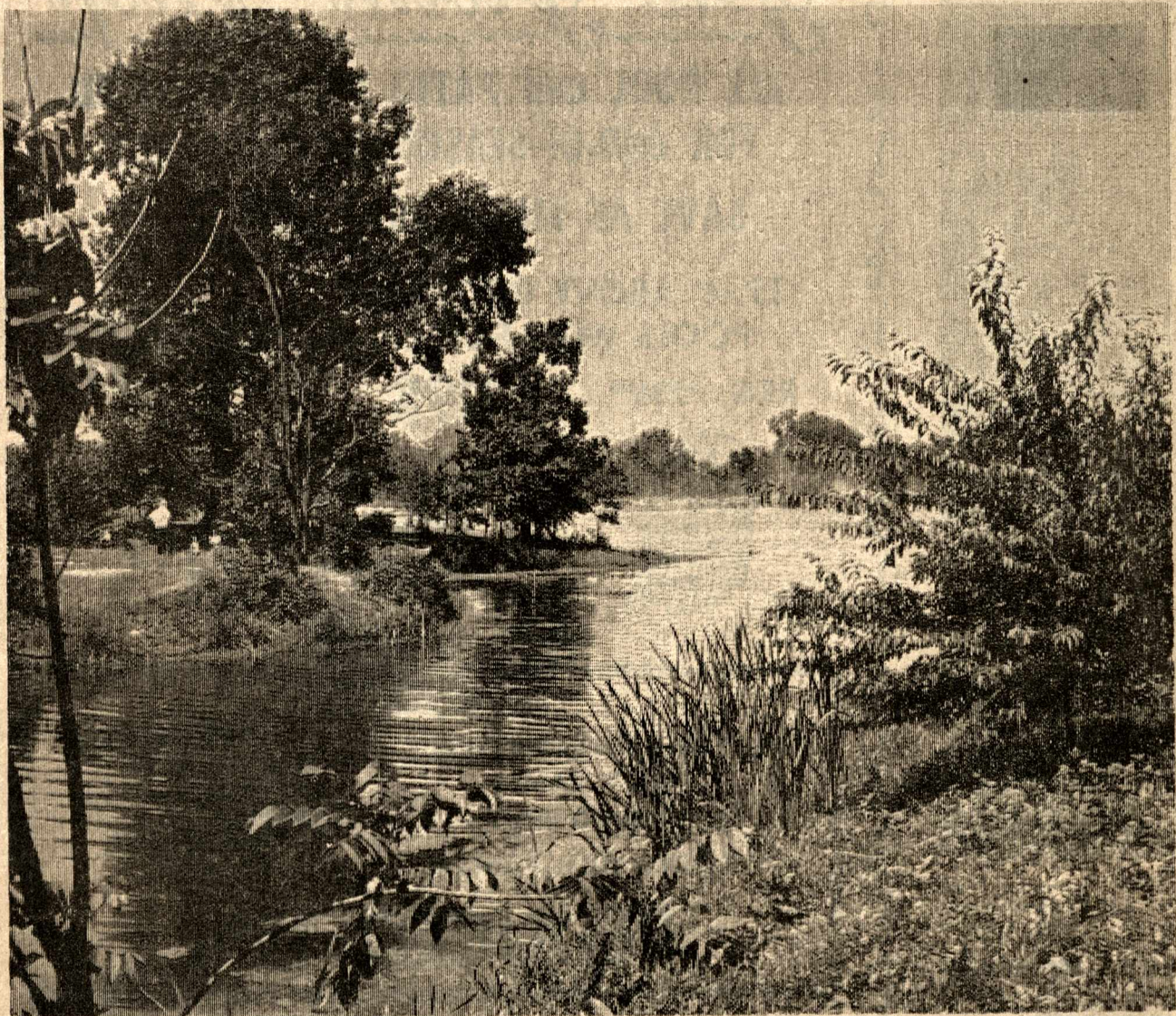
PARK - COUNTY - 1 - FOR 3



VIGO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

REFERENCE  
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Community Affairs File



BASS, BLUEGILLS AND CATFISH are waiting in the waters of Fowler Park's 20-acre lake. While Dad and the boys

search for the edibles, Mom and the girls can prepare for the feast in one of the many picnic spots in the park.

Photo by Martin.

*Property of*  
Vigo County Historical Society



TRIB-STAR 3-9-69

# County Park Department Gets Tree Mover

By JACK A. HUGHES

Tribune Staff Writer

The cry of "Woodsman, spare that tree!" is modified to "Move that tree," in Vigo County's Fowler Park these days as workmen concentrate on a combined conservation - beautification project aimed at one phase of low cost park improvement with long-range benefits.

Richard Norris, superintendent of the Vigo County Park and Recreation Department, estimates that the new hydraulic tree spade implement acquire this winter at a cost of \$550, will enable his crew to save "maybe 100 trees, weather permitting, this year alone."

He credits Mother Nature with doing a good job on the basic features of the park, but acknowledges that "For our purposes, she put some of the trees in the wrong place." Those purposes are bent on developing the 140-acre park, Vigo County's first such recreation spot, according to plans set out carefully, and with economy, by the County Park and Recreation Board.

The first of many small oak trees slated for new ground was moved to a better spot in the 15-acre camping area under development this week. Norris said that without the new equipment, the job probably couldn't have been done. With the hydraulic spade, and one of the hand variety to poke and prod here and there, two men lifted the four-inch diameter oak from its old home in about 15 minutes. Another 15 minutes or so and they had planted it in a new hole, dug earlier with the same equipment.

The new implement provides double service for a front-end loader tractor the department already had and uses the hy-

draulic system of the loader. The park superintendent says the changeover is accomplished quickly with the removal of flour pins and their retaining keys. The unit handles a maximum load of about 2,000 pounds, a needed capacity in the juggling of heavy earth-laden tree loads.

The redistribution of trees, around the 20-acre park lake in the camping areas and another 20 acres of ground devoted to picnic activity, will occupy good-weather periods this spring and next fall. Norris expects that the new piece of equipment will "... more than pay for itself this year."

Although it isn't possible to put a dollar value on beauty or fully to estimate the worth of conservation, the cost of a similar effort using purchased trees of the same size probably would run to thousand of dollars. But, these trees are free.

Unlike Shakespeare's Macbeth, who had reason to be unhappy when Great Birnam Wood came to Dunsinane in one of literature's earlier uses of trees as military camouflage, Norris and Park Board President Jack Wood are happy to see Fowler forest moving.

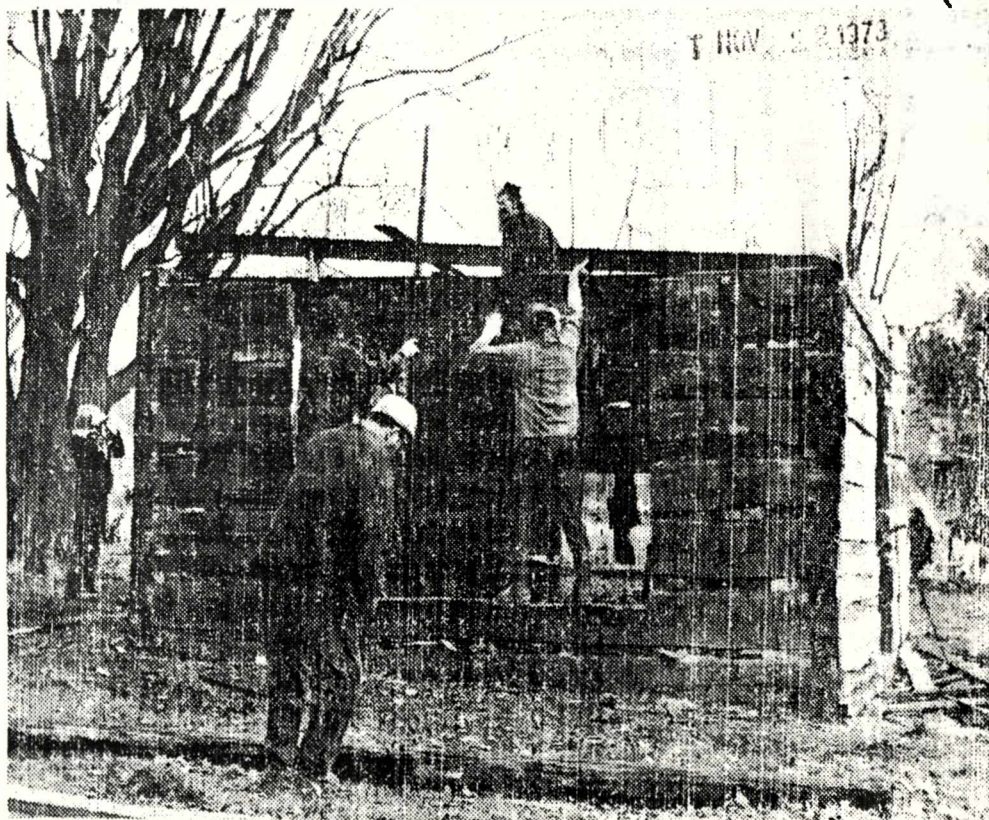
The action of this modern Birnam is going on about six miles south of Terre Haute (10 miles south of downtown) near U.S. Highway 41. The park is located east of the highway and direction signs are posted to show the way from the turn-off point at Stuckey's Pecan Shop.

Fowler Park



VIGO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
ONE LIBRARY SQUARE  
TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA 47807

54 THE TRIBUNE, TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA Community Affairs THURSDAY, NOV. 22, 1973



**DOWN SHE GOES**—Did you ever hear of a "cabin lowering?" The Vigo County Park and Recreation Department, with the help of some Terre Haute Jaycees, Sunday finished the work of dismantling, log by log, a cabin built in the 1820s. It will be re-constructed at Fowler Park in the spring. The cabin was donated to the Park Department by Ben Lidster. Park department workers had removed the siding the previous week. The volunteers had been on the job several hours when this picture was taken and were working their way down as the logs were removed one by one. The cabin was a one and a half story dwelling about 15 feet by 15 feet. During the day, ham and beans were prepared in Chuck Leeth's big bean pot for the hungry workers. Charles Hord Ray instructed Park Superintendent Keith Ruble in the proper way to mark the corner logs so that the cabin can be easily re-constructed when it becomes building No. 2 in a planned Pioneer Village at Fowler Park.

House of Photography.

REFERENCE  
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Community Affairs File



# Fowler Park lake *Parks & Recreation (Vigo)* getting more fish

TS JUN 18 1976

By CAROLYN TOOPS

Tribune-Star Writer

The fish population in the lake at Fowler Park will be increased by about 1,000 Monday, according to Keith Ruble, superintendent of the Vigo County Park and Recreation Department.

Plans call for about 1,000 channel catfish, averaging 6 to 8 inches in length, to be dumped into the lake about 11:30 a.m. Monday, Ruble said.

"This is the first of several things to come that will provide better fishing opportunities at both Fowler and Prairie Creek Park lakes," he explained.

The channel catfish are being purchased from a private firm, Ruble said.

"The state (through the Department of Natural Resources) can't give us anything but fingerlings at this time," he said. The larger channel catfish will have a better chance for survival, he pointed out. The predator bass in the lake would

eat the fingerlings before they grew to sufficient size, he said.

"We are also asking DNR for assistance in eliminating the hickory shad population in the Fowler Park lake," Ruble added. In addition, the Vigo County Park Department hopes to work out a continuous stocking program with DNR for both Fowler and Prairie Creek lakes, he said.

Prairie Creek lake hasn't yet recovered from the severe fish kill in 1977, the park superintendent said. But barring another severe winter, fishing at Prairie Creek should be very good by the spring of 1980, he remarked. The fish population will include large mouth bass, channel catfish, red-eared sunfish and bluegills, Ruble said.

And if the first stocking of the 6 to 8 inch channel catfish proves successful at Fowler Park, more will be purchased from a private firm for both Fowler and Prairie Creek lakes, he stated.

Community Affairs File

REFERENCE

DO NOT CIRCULATE



view of the past

# Looking back

Ts JUN 8 1986

Community Affairs File

✓ Parks + Recreation (VC)

## Fowler Park's Pioneer Village offers

The whacking sound of a sharply-honed axe biting into an old log echoed through the nearby woods as the man — dressed in homespun — cut firewood.

The fire in the stone fireplace in the log cabin crackled as vegetables simmered in the old black pot. The women were knitting, spinning and preparing the noon meal. Their long calico skirts brushed the wooden planks of the floor as they bent to inspect one another's work.

They talked quietly while they worked, sharing bits of gossip, news from "back home" and ingredients for dye.

Thus, for a few hours in May, Pioneer Village in Fowler Park was a living portrait of life as it was many years ago in the Wabash Valley.

The event was the annual picnic for members of the Central Indiana Spinners and Fiber Arts Guild.

Helen Bouillez, explained, "In pioneer days of the early 1800s, ladies had to spend as much of their time as they could spinning yarn to weave into garments for the family, or knitting socks, caps and mittens. It was an eventful day when the ladies gathered with friends and neighbors for a day of spinning and happy talk.

Community Affairs File



"They would form a spinners circle and discuss events in the small village and in the lives of neighboring farm families. As they spun their yarn and knitted, special food simmered in the cast iron kettles in the fireplace."

Maintaining the tradition, members of the guild dressed in pioneer costumes to share a May day of fellowship, spinning and cooking.

Bouillez said Indians taught the pioneers how to obtain soft, permanent colors from natural things.

Guild members also use natural materials. "We use dye stuffs like onion skins, acorn, watercress, goldenrod, sassafras, catnip and black walnuts to dye our handspun wool soft shades of yellow, gold, green, beige and brown.

"We have a natural dye workshop about once a year to discover new possibilities of color," she said. "All samples of yarn are then subjected to a fade test in the sun for several weeks before we trust our handspun to the new dye."

Each woman took a special dish to the picnic.

Peggy Brown served the beverages — ginger water and lemonade. Betty Neuenschwander served vegetables and Bouillez provided ham and sour dough biscuits. Ada McGurk Hodge prepared rhubarb. Barbara Pirtle baked a burnt sugar cake.

When the meal was finished, the women washed dishes with homemade lye soap.

Brown, Neuenschwander and Bouillez are charter members of the guild, organized in September 1982 in Greencastle.

Meetings are from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of each month — September through May — in Thornton Center.

Bouillez said, "In December we have a carry-in dinner and in May we have the picnic. In the other months we take brown-bag lunches to the meetings."

She said membership is open to people interested in the fiber arts. "Not all members are spinners," she said. "We share knowledge with each other and because of our varied interests there is always some new tip on knitting, quilting, weaving, sewing, etc."

Neuenschwander, who lives near Brazil, is interested in gardening, sewing, spinning, weaving, basketry and natural dying. She uses her yarns to knit and crochet such items as sweaters and scarves for her family. She also weaves pot holders, pillows, rag rugs and shag rugs.

Bouillez said, "Spring and summer will find her gathering materials for weaving baskets and dye stuffs for her yarns. Her newest craft is sewing fully-jointed teddy bears, but spinning and weaving are her first loves."

Neuenschwander creates Appalachian and woven baskets and conducts workshops about natural dying.

Hodge started weaving after her three children were grown. Her interest was sparked when she inherited a coverlet woven by her grandfather, a coverlet weaver in Ohio.

Hodge worked with Pauline Montgomery when she was collecting information for her book, "Indiana Coverlet Weavers and Their Coverlets," published in 1974. She is a volunteer textile consultant for the Vigo County Historical Society. She catalogued the coverlet collection in the Historical Museum of the Wabash Valley and keeps the large rug loom in the museum warped for use.

Hodge is one of the founders of the Wabash Weavers Guild and teaches the study group.

She is not a spinner, but as a fiber artist she experiments in dying with natural and commercial sources.

Pirtle, who lives on a cattle and grain farm near Sullivan, enjoys spinning, weaving, traditional rug hooking and gardening. A qualified flower judge, she is president of the Sullivan County Garden Club. She is a member of the Friday Afternoon Literary Club and vice president of the Wabash Weaver Guild.

Because Pirtle is interested in conservation, she feeds birds all winter and plants a tree each year.

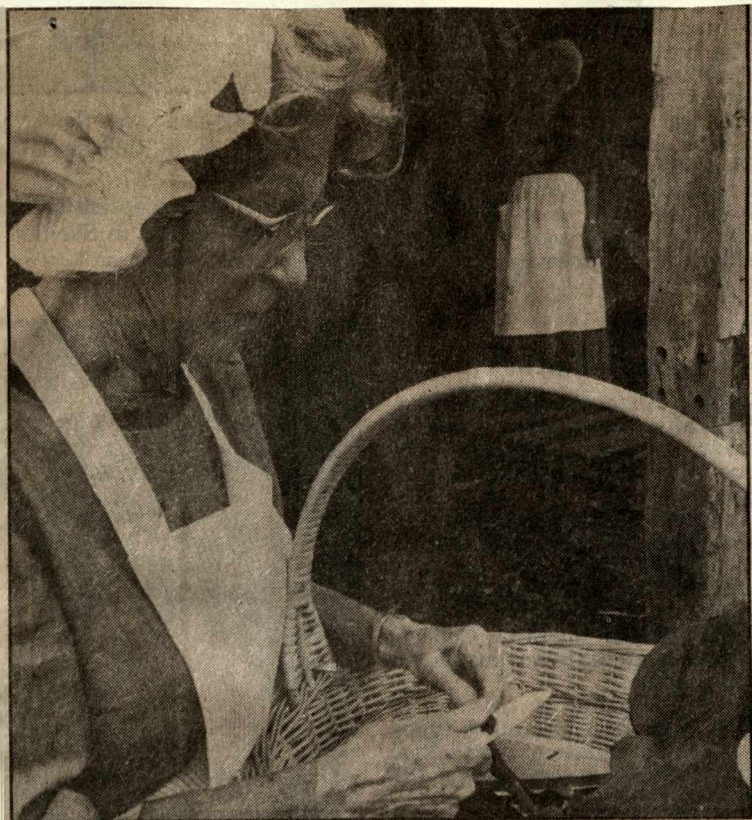
The mother of three children and the grandmother of eight, she is a part-time employee of the Merom Post Office.

Bouillez, who is a spinner and a weaver, enjoys re-creating the traditions of pioneer life. So she and her husband Jim spend summer weekends in Pioneer Village, living and dressing as Wabash Valley pioneers and conducting tours.

Often traveling with Tansy, an English Angora rabbit, Bouillez visits schools and organizations to present programs about pioneer life.

In her free time she travels and sews.





Tribune-Star/Bob Poynter

## Working in the sun

Ada Hodge rests in her rocking chair while she trims fresh rhubarb for the noon meal.

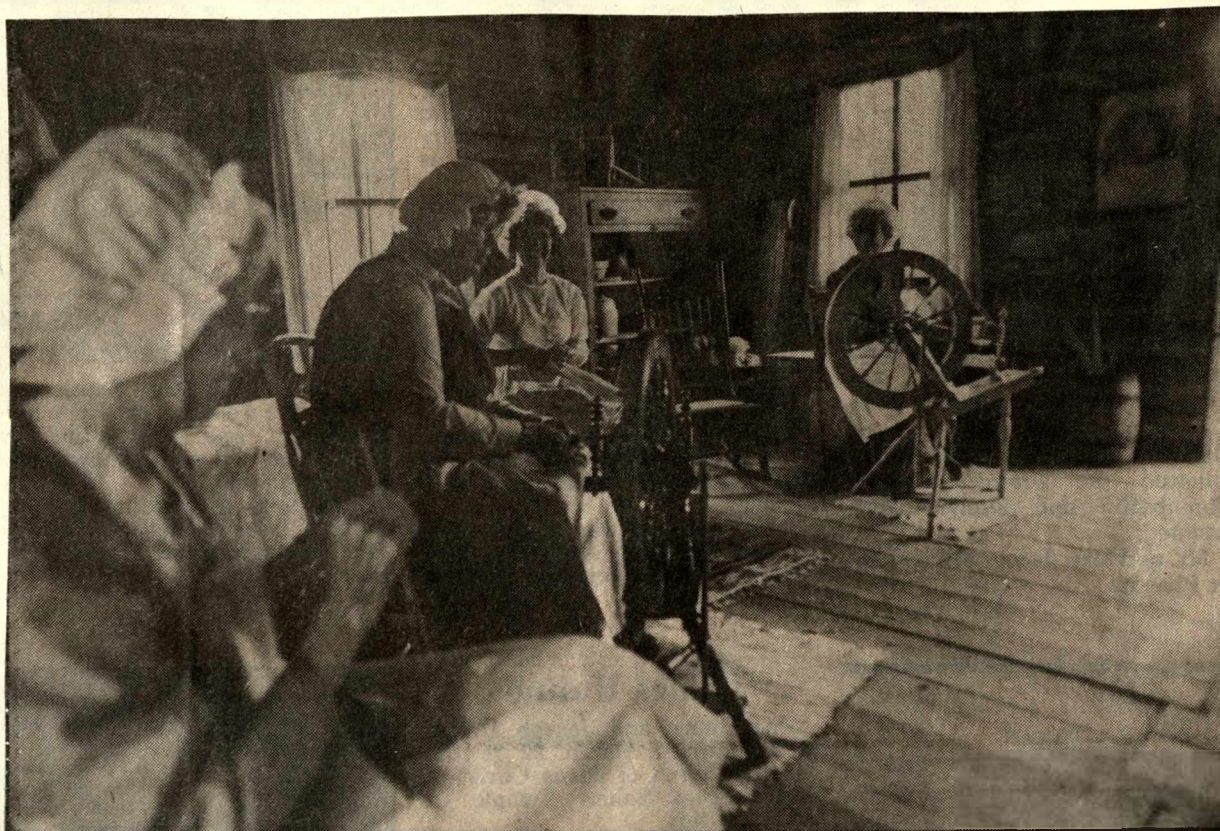


Tribune-Star/Bob Poynter

## Hard work

Jim Bouillez works on the split-rail fence at Pioneer Village.



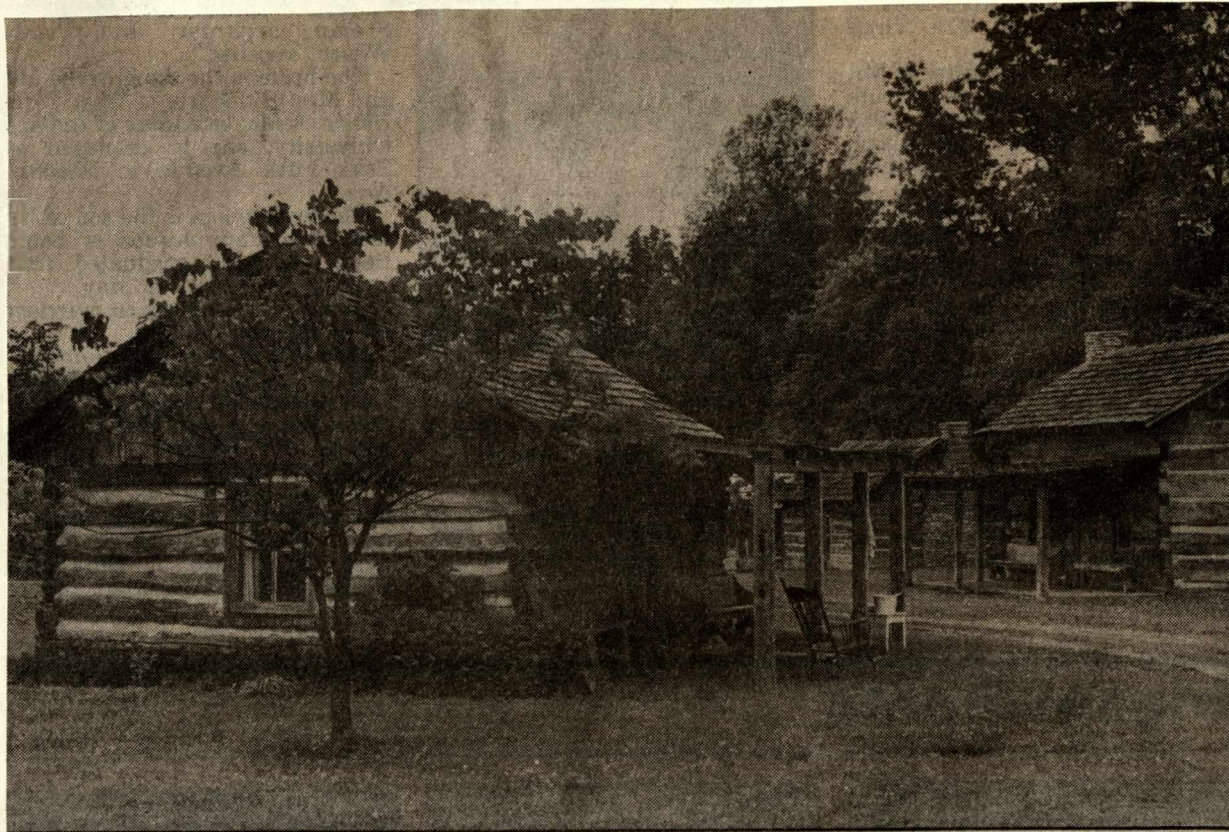


Tribune-Star/Bob Poynter

### Just like great-grandma

Ada Hodge, Betty Neuenschwander, Barbara Pirtle and Helen Bouillez spin and sew. The four women show that they are enjoying the results of their work.



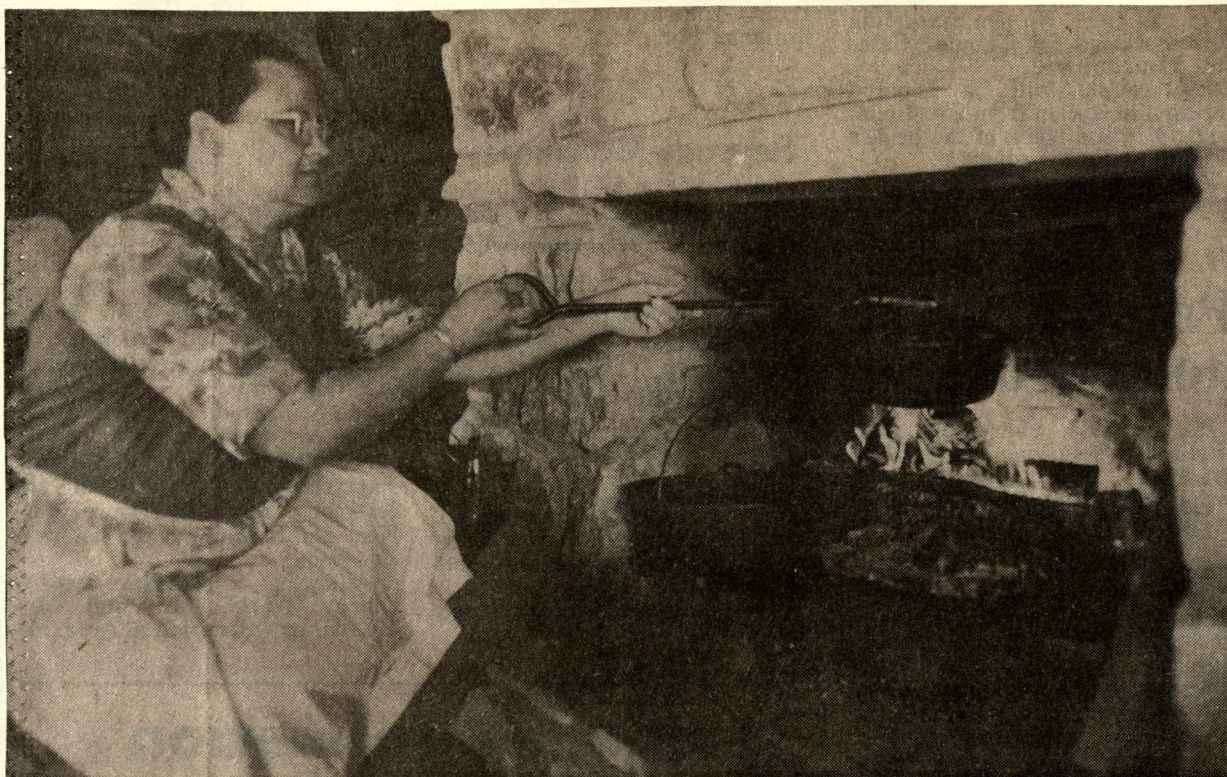


Tribune-Star/Bob Poynter

### **A bit of yesterday**

Pioneer Village in Fowler Park rests under the clear-blue skies of a gentle May morning. Visitors are able to enjoy a look at some past history of the United States.



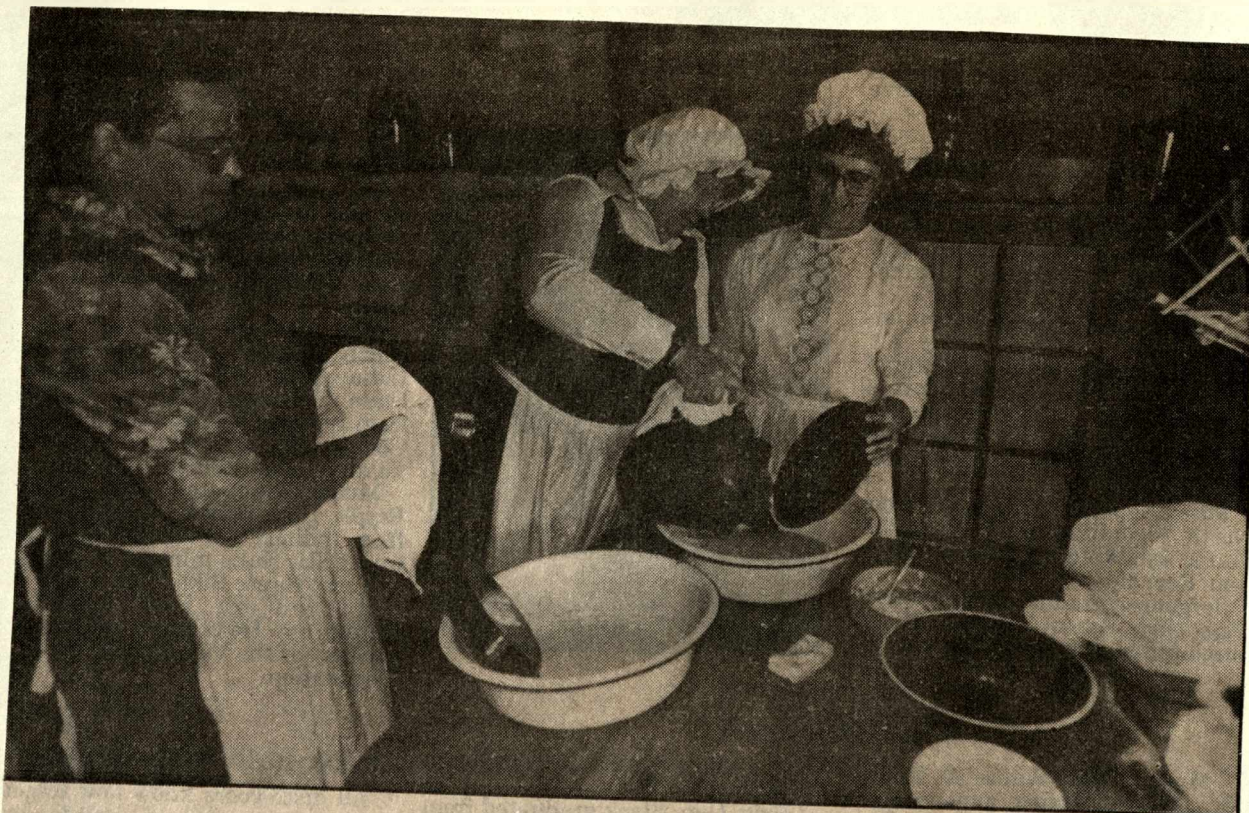


Tribune-Star/Bob Poynter

### Time for dinner

Peggy Brown stirs a pot of rhubarb, while home-cooked meal was not as easy to serve as potatoes and carrots simmer on the hearth. A it is today.





### **A woman's work ...**

Tribune-Star/Bob Poynter

After a meal of ham, sour dough biscuits, vegetables and burnt-sugar cake, Peggy Brown, Betty Neuenschwander and Barbara Pirtle washed dishes with homemade lye soap.



REFERENCE  
DO NOT CIRCULATE

# This Fact Should Be Kept Secret!

## Fowler Park Great Outing Place

By GARY MINICH  
Tribune Staff Writer

The profession of journalism oft-times demands we do ourselves a disservice. That's the feeling I have in spreading the word about Fowler Park (How much better off I would be keeping it to myself!).

Fowler Park is new but seems a return to a decade or two ago when more of our lakes and streams were clear, cool and unpolluted. Part of the reason for the county park's swimming area being so attractive is that so few of us have discovered it. I reasoned, before talking to David Beres, Vigo County Park and Recreation Department superintendent.

The water is crystal clear — clean, without sediment. It looks clean enough to drink. Sadly, sitting on the raft in the middle of the swimming area, I wondered how long it would take for usage to ruin all this.

### Spring Fed Lake

No need to worry, according to Beres. People are not really the problem — nature is. Most polluted lakes are fed by run off from industrial areas or by streams polluted by industry. The 23-acre lake at the park is fed by underground springs and run-off from surrounding farm lands.

"Crowds will make the water cloudy (temporarily)," Beres told me, "by stirring up the sandy bottom." Other than that, people do little damage as long as they do not dump their trash and garbage in the water. So far, users of Fowler Park have respected the beautiful surroundings.

"We've pushed more than 10 tons of sand into the water at the beach to keep the mud covered," Beres said. That helps keep the water clear. In addition, water samples are taken each week to insure that it is safe for swimming.

What about in the future? When the really big crowds start?

Again, no problem. Contrary to the belief of many, the lake is not a former strip pit. It is a dammed valley. By placing

the swimming area near the man-made dam-drain any pollution caused by humans is quickly eliminated.

### For Years to Come

"Fowler Park should be clear and clean for years to come," Beres assured me.

So assured, the interview progressed to other features of the five-year old facility:

Planned in the mid-60s and named for the first Vigo County soldier to die in Southeast Asia, Capt. Eugene Fowler, the park has been open since 1967 with more to offer each year.

In addition to swimming, camp sites, picnic areas and hiking trails are the major attractions. Electrical and plumbing facilities have been installed this year for the convenience of campers. Of the 140 acres eventually to be included in the park, 70 acres have been developed since 1966 for recreational use. Approximately 47

acres are available for picnicking and camping. Plans are in the works to include another 80 acres primarily as a hiking and trail area.

Facilities include a large picnic shelter available by reservation, beach concessionaire and shelter, rental boats, boat dock, numerous picnic tables and grills.

### No Entrance

Most of what the park offers is free. Camping fees are \$2 per night with electricity and water, \$1 per night at unimproved sites. A returnable deposit is charged in reserving the main shelter.

All improvements and repairs as well as salaries for park employees come from the annual budget, this year set at \$61,000. Matching state funds aided in some developments in 1970.

The park is open all year, although some facilities are closed in winter, mainly because

the unimproved roads become mud in rainy and snowy weather.

For swimmers, three life guards are on duty at all times with others added on weekends. Three of the guards presently employed are Red Cross certified water safety instructors. A fourth is a senior life guard who hopes to be certified as a water safety instructor this summer.

The beach opens at noon daily and stays open until 8 p.m. Memorial Day's crowd of 1,500 prompted Beres to open the swimming season a week early, but most weekdays, the park is the least crowded spot in the county.

Personally, I'd like to keep it that way . . . but good things are meant to be shared. If you want to share Fowler Park, take U.S. 41 south to Stuckey's, turn left and follow the signs. In this age of trash, garbage and pollution, you'll make a rare find.



ON A HOT DAY—The bathing area at Vigo County's Fowler Park south of the city looks like this on hot, busy days. If you go early in the week, or during the week, you'll see what our reporter is talking about—unspoiled, natural beauty. Photo by Martin.



*Parks & Recreation (Vigo)*  
**Pioneer days**  
Community Affairs File  
**to come alive**  
Ts SEP 24 1978  
**at area park**

**More activities added  
to this year's event  
set for weekend**

By CAROLYN TOOPS  
Tribune-Star Writer

Olden ways of olden days will come alive at Fowler Park next weekend, as the sixth annual Pioneer Days activities get under way.

The Vigo County Park and Recreation Department promises some new additions to this year's event, set for Saturday, Sept. 30 and Sunday, Oct. 1. These

---

*The scenic beauty of Fowler park and Pioneer Days are featured in today's edition of the Rotogravure section.*

---

include a team of oxen, a genealogical exhibit and a display of folk toys.

The little pioneer village at the park entrance (six cabins and a log barn) is the featured attraction. But visitors will also delight in the covered bridge, the flea market, and the fall foliage.

Park personnel, including Superintendent Keith Ruble and Assistant Superintendent Chet Burkeybyle, will be demonstrating a variety pioneer skills and crafts during the two-day festival.

Everything will be as authentic as possible, Ruble stressed. Flea market dealers will handle hand crafted and antique items primarily, he said. A few spaces are still available, Ruble stated.

"Nothing will be for sale in the pioneer village itself," Ruble emphasized. The cabins and "new" log barn have been furnished with "period pieces."

The genealogical display in the basement of the log barn depicts the history of Vigo County, Linton Township and some of the log cabins in the village, the superintendent said.

Dorothy Turner and Virginia Kennedy arranged the exhibit and provided the signs that decorate some of the cabins.

Joe Vencel of Prairie Creek will be on hand with a team of oxen. Artists who will set up their easels in the covered bridge include Donna Miller of Terre Haute and Ermil Cooksey of Linton.

Bob Wadsworth, local potter, will return to Pioneer Days with demonstrations and displays of his work. Sam Henderson of the Fort Minglewood Long Rifles is scheduled to show the complete assembly, from beginning to end, of a muzzleloader.

Beginning at 11 a.m. both days, the North Vigo High School Band Boosters will serve food — a bean dinner Saturday and beef stew Sunday. They also plan a bake sale both days.

Each year a different Vigo County high school handles the food project at Pioneer Days, with the proceeds going to benefit particular school activities.

In keeping with the pioneer theme, clothing worn by park staffers and others assisting will be in the styles of the 1800s.

Muslin shirts, baggy pants with suspenders and wide-brimmed hats will be the men's uniform of the day. Susie Ruble, wife of the park superintendent, sewed the shirts, and Donna Miller, wife of park board president Max Miller, sewed the pants.

Other activities both days include country music by Jimmy Mattox and horse drawn wagon rides.

Admission to the county park is free. Fowler Park is located about six miles south of Terre Haute on U.S. 41 (turn east at Stuckey Road).

Vigo County's own fall festival at Fowler Park began with just one cabin. Since then, the village has grown, with the log bank barn the newest addition. Future plans call for landscaping and gardens around the cabins as early settlers would have had.



# Overheated Furnace Gets Blame For \$80,000 Fire at Fowler Park

By CAROLYN TOOPS  
Tribune Staff Writer

A fire Tuesday afternoon at Fowler Park caused damage estimated at more than \$80,000 to a maintenance/storage building. County Park and Recreation Supt. Keith Ruble said Wednesday.

An \$8,000 tractor was the largest single item reportedly destroyed in the blaze, which is believed to have been caused by an overheated furnace.

Ruble and insurance representatives began an inventory Wednesday morning. Hand tools, drills, "odds and ends" of

equipment, will be "hard to count," Ruble commented.

Design of a new building will begin immediately, the superintendent said. Meantime, the small maintenance building and shop at Prairie Creek Park will have to do "double duty," he continued.

A maintenance man and three Green Thumb workers at Fowler Park were eating lunch when the blaze erupted. It spread quickly, with portions of the building acting as a "natural chimney."

Several boxes containing toilet paper, stored on top of a shed, provided fuel in-

advertently. The fire was so hot that it burned the steel girders on top, Ruble said.

Responding to the 12:15 p.m. alarm were units from Pimento, Honey Creek and Blackhawk, along with apparatus from Pfizer, Inc. Phil Reed, assistant fire chief and inspector for the Pimento Fire Department, thanked neighboring fire departments for their prompt response and assistance, which kept the blaze from spreading to other areas.

The maintenance building was about 70 feet by 25 feet, with an attached 50-foot long lean-to, about 15 feet wide. Two parts of the building were heated, Ruble said, one where auto repairs were made, and another area containing the drill press and other equipment.

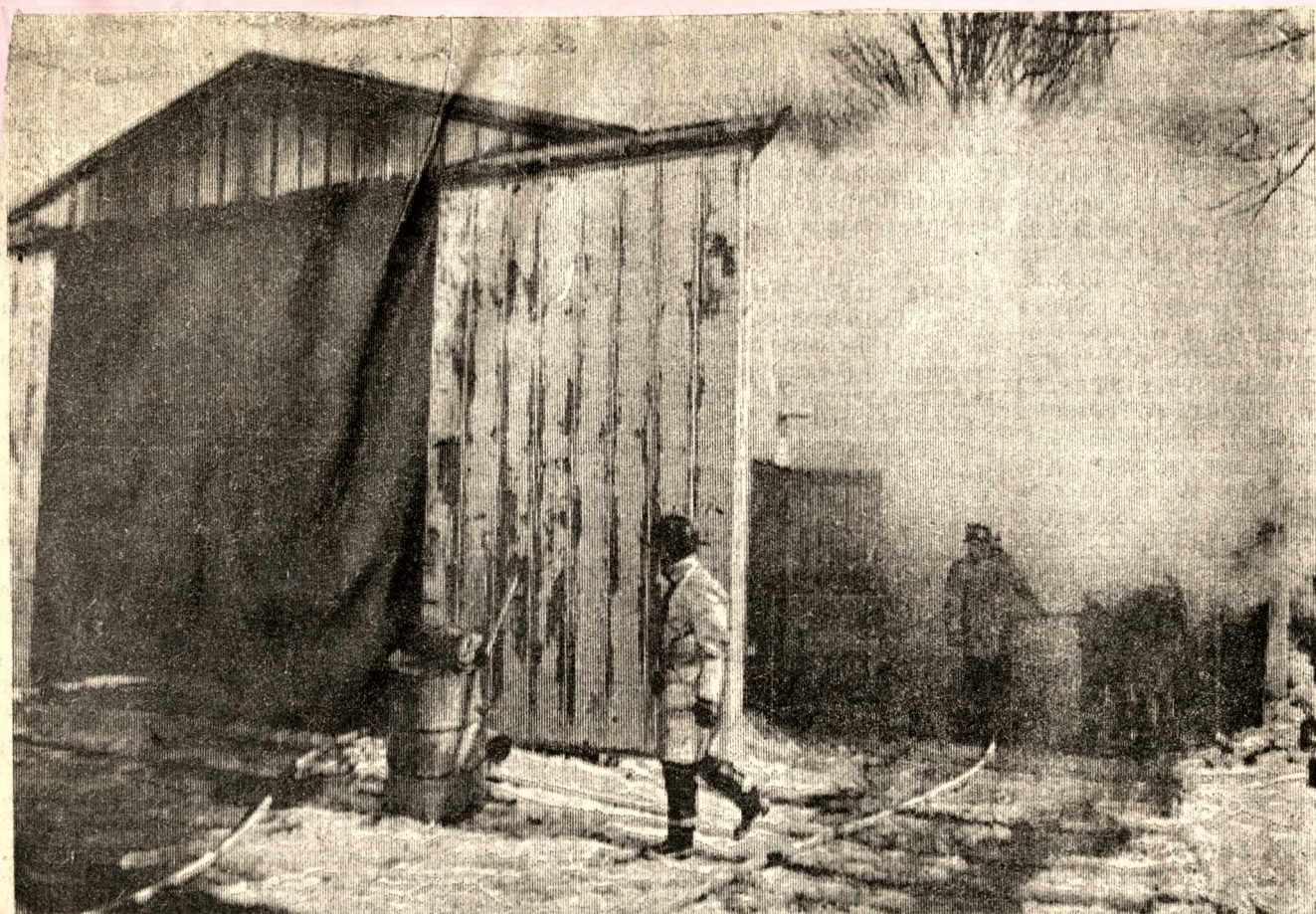
The fire was the second piece of bad luck suffered by the County Park Department in one day. Earlier Tuesday, Ruble had announced the temporary closing of Glenn Recreation Center because of dwindling supplies of natural gas in the Seelyville and Glenn areas.

The voluntary closing of the heavily used eastern Vigo County recreation facility to conserve energy was commended by officials of the Terre Haute Gas Corporation. Ruble and Assistant Park Supt. Chet Burkeybyl had worked on the boiler at Glenn and had conferred with the gas company before reluctantly making the decision to close Glenn Center temporarily.

Vigo County Public Library

REFERENCE  
DO NOT CIRCULATE





**THIS MAINTENANCE BUILDING** at Fowler Park suffered severe damage when a fire began shortly after noon. Units from Pimento, Honey Creek and Blackhawk, along with fire apparatus from Pfizer, Inc., responded to the alarm at 12:15 p.m. Damage estimates are expected to exceed \$80,000, Vigo County Park and Recreation Supt. Keith Ruble said. An \$8,000 tractor was

destroyed in the blaze. Ruble began making an inventory of the losses Wednesday morning and said the Department would begin immediately to design a building to replace the gutted structure and its lean-to. The small maintenance building and shop at the county's Prairie Creek Park will be used in the interim. Ruble indicated.

House of Photography Photo



## Parks and Recreation (Vigo Co)

Terre Haute may be one of only two cities in the state which has a self-guided nature trail in a city park.

The Dobbs Park Nature Trail has been marked and brochures allowing nature lovers to make best use of the trails are scheduled to go to the printer this week, according to park Superintendent Patrick Ralston.

Many people who enjoy the trails at Dobbs, dedicated as a state nature preserve, do not know at what they are looking, according to Ralston.

S NOV 23 1981

The self-guiding trail will help people educate themselves about the out of doors.

Each station on the trail is marked with a numbered post. A corresponding number in the brochure will provide an explanation for what can be seen at that station and where it can be found.

Perhaps if people are educated about the outdoors, they will appreciate it more and not destroy it, Ralston ventured.

The only other self-guiding trail in a city park Ralston knows of is in Indianapolis, he said. Terre Haute is one of very few cities in the state to have a park which is a dedicated nature preserve, he added.

The nature trail already existed, so the only cost to the city was about \$200 for the lumber to make the posts which mark the trail, according to Ralston. The posts were set by Park Department employees and volunteers from the Indiana State University Department of Recreation, he said.

The first brochure printed will provide winter information. Eventually, other seasonal information will be added, Ralston said. For example, spring information will include location and names of wildflowers along the trail.

The trail is less than half a mile long and can be enjoyed by all ages. It is flat and not too long so the elderly will not be tired, Ralston said, and children will not be bored.

Along the trail, which begins at the northwest side of the lake, visitors will walk through virgin timber and

be able to see the biggest oak trees in this part of the state.

This winter, another new addition is planned for Dobbs, according to Ralston. One of the parks' trails will be altered slightly so it can be used by cross country skiers.



Vigo Co. Recreation

This log house was constructed prior to 1830 on land obtained by a grant from the U.S. Government to a John Jackson on January 16, 1821. It was located on what became known as the Old Flouring Mill Property in the town of Lockport (now Riley). The Wabash and Erie Canal with its Lockport towline was about three hundred feet east of the cabin.

Additions had been made to the cabin. Drop cedar siding had been put on the outside and the inside was lathed and plastered. In wrecking the house, the log cabin was found intact.

This cabin was donated to the Vigo County Park and Recreation Department by the children of Dan and Iva Wood (better known to Riley children of all ages as Grandma and Pop Wood!) This had been their home for 46 years.

It was reconstructed by the American Federation of Teachers, Local 734 in 1970.

Printed by the Vigo County Public Library

(copy of a sign to be placed on the cabin in ~~the~~ Fowler park. 6-30-70)

Vigo County Public Library

6-30-70



# Pioneer Village Major Parks' Goal

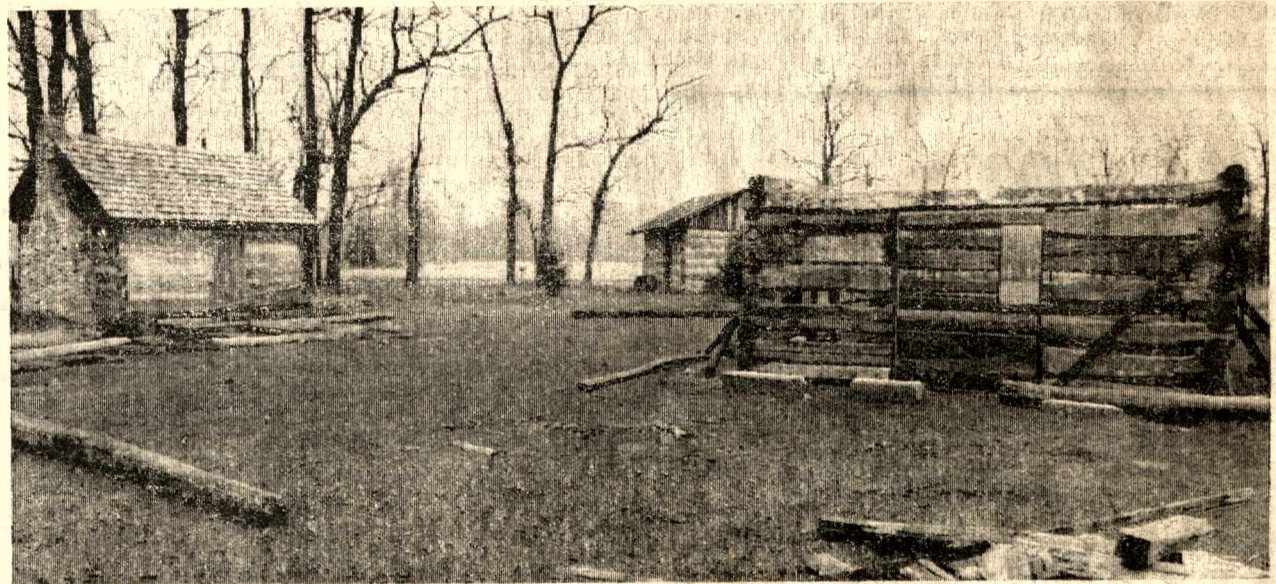
**EDITOR'S NOTE:** This is the first in a series of three articles outlining plans and some of the accomplishments of the Vigo County Park and Recreation Department during 1974 and since its establishment in 1967.

By JESS WILLIAMS  
Star Assistant Editor

"Establish a park and recreation system that will serve all people, young, teen, adult, senior citizen, healthy or handicapped, in Vigo County."

That is the philosophy of the Vigo County Park and Recreation Department (VCPRD), and that is exactly what some very able and sincerely interested Vigo Countians are striving to accomplish.

A five-year master plan with 20-year increment was completed in 1972. The plan calls for one multi-purpose park to



See **PARKS**  
On Page 3, Column 4

**PIONEER VILLAGE** — Two completed hand-hewn log cabins and another about one-third completed are shown on the tentatively planned Pioneer Village site at Fowler Park,

south of the city. The village is one of several projects underway by the Vigo County Park and Recreation Department. (Photo by Kadel)



The Pioneer Fall Festival is held annually at the Village site and is designed to bring back the Early American life with authentic tools, displays, handicrafts and fun for the whole family to enjoy. The event is held the first weekend in October.

+ + +

At present there are two hand-hewn log cabins completely restored and a third cabin about one-third reconstructed, according to Chester "Chet" Burkeybyle, assistant superintendent.

Tentative plans call for two or three more log cabins of two-story structure, a log barn to house pioneer type farm equipment to show----- school children and the public, an old trading post, a school house, an old church and a blacksmith shop. Both sides of the road will be used according to Burkeybyle.

at (the situation) on a daily basis."

Concerning any additional layoffs, Streacker commented that it is "difficult to say" if more are in the offing. But if a "drop of business" which caused the December layoffs continues, Streacker concluded, officials might likely seek to cut back further on production.

## Parks

Continued From Page 1

be built in each corner of Vigo County so there would be a recreational facility within a ten to fifteen minute drive for any Vigo County resident.

Along with multi - purpose parks are single-purpose facilities such as play grounds and nature areas.

+ + +

The most recent amendment to the master plan adds the mini-park concept to rural recreationally void communities.

Since establishment of the VCPRD in 1967, two multi-purpose parks and one recreation center have been opened. One old school house has been restored for historical and educational purposes and some small playgrounds are in the making.

The county park department now maintains approximately 350 acres, and conservation of natural resources are of primary concern to the department, according to Keith Ruble, VCPRD superintendent. The department feels that recreational development should not be at the cost of conservation, and Ruble added "The conservation of the resources in our parks assures generations of use by people, with little damage to those resources."

+ + +

Pioneer Village is one of the projects generating a lot of enthusiasm in the department, the city and the Wabash Valley as a whole. The village, being erected at Fowler Park, will display early American homes, life styles, tools and accessories for the purpose of education and historic purposes for school children and adults, according to Ruble.

Plans are to have a guide take groups on tour through the village and explain early American life.

Several items have already been donated for the village project, Ruble said, but much more is needed. The aim is educational and recreational so that persons of Vigo County will be more aware how the settlers lived, worked and used their time.

and the village will cover about four acres.

The assistant parks superintendent says that Tony Taglia, Seelyville, a retired milkman has offered to help plan the village for authenticity. Anyone who is interested helping with the restoration by donation or talents are asked to call the Vigo Park Dept., 232-4074.

+ + +

Max Miller, Vigo County Extension Agent for Community Development, is president of the Park and Recreation Board. Other members include Ruel F. Burns Sr., Susan McCarthy, John Etling, Everett "Bud" Spence and the newest member, John Thompson, who was recently appointed by Judge C. Joseph Anderson. Boyd Schepper recently completed three terms of service on the board.

Mrs. Jane Alexander is secretary at the office located on the fourth floor at the courthouse. Cecelia McLean is director of the Glenn Recreation Center.

There are eight fulltime employees, two men working in the department under the Emergency Employment Act (EEA which terminates in March 1975) and several part-time employees, according to Burkeybyle. The number of part-time employees fluctuates during the different seasons, he added.

The offices in the department are appropriately decorated so that one thinks parks immediately upon entering. The yesteryear atmosphere is complete down to the old barn doors and latches. The interesting and attractive offices were completed in December 1973 and a great deal of the finishing work was done by Ruble, Burkeybyle and department employees.

**NEXT: Fowler Park, Prairie Creek Park, New Goshe School, Nature Areas and pilot Rural Recreation program.**



# Pioneer Village Project Discussed By Park Officials

By CAROLYN TOOPS  
Tribune Staff Writer

A cooperative project between the Vigo County Park and Recreation Department and the County Extension Service, with technical assistance from Purdue University, may result in a slide/film presentation depicting pioneer life that can be used effectively along with the Pioneer Village at Fowler Park.

The prospect of using the Pioneer Village for educational and historical purposes for schools and colleges was one of the topics thoroughly discussed by the County Park Department's board members at a meeting Monday afternoon.

Supt. Keith Ruble explained that the slides and/or film sequences could be shown in the log barn now nearing completion, and would show pioneer life styles and activities from the era in which the cabins were built.

"This would be a step by step feature," the superintendent said, "showing such things as a man hitching up a team to go into the woods to select trees to be used for his log cabin, and then proceeding through the cutting, hewing, etc."

After the film presentation, groups would then tour the little village at Fowler Park, and would also have a chance to participate in some kind of pioneer craft, Ruble continued.

"We have very little money for this project," he noted, adding that Conner Prairie (north of Indianapolis) is able to put on a much more elaborate program during the summer to depict pioneer life, due to a \$300,000 grant from the Lilly Foundation.

In other business before the board, Max Miller was reelected president and Susan McCarthy reelected vice-president. This is Miller's eighth year as a board member. He serves ex-officio as County Extension Agent, in keeping with the statute under which the county park system was established 10 years ago.

Funds for several park projects were approved. These include camp fire boxes for Fowler and Prairie Creek Parks; a creative playground for Gleenn Recreation Center; gravel for walkways and road at the Pioneer Village at Fowler; a small building for

primitive toilets at Prairie Creek Park in addition to facilities which use running water, and for work on underground water storage tank at Prairie Creek.

Plans were also approved to survey for a new playground planned at Prairieton. As with all rural recreation projects undertaken by the County Park Department, Ruble said that input from residents of the communities where new recreation facilities are planned is needed, as it is most important for the Park Department to know what residents desire.

The board meets the fourth Monday of each month at the American Red Cross Building, 700 S. 3rd St., at 4 p.m. All sessions are open to the public.

Community Affairs File

Vigo County Public Library

REFERENCE  
DO NOT CIRCULATE



PAMPHLET THE

REFERENCE  
DO NOT CIRCULATE

T.N. Parks T.N. TRIB - Star 8-30-70



FOWLER PARK, Vigo County's contribution to the area's recreational attractions, is growing rapidly. A beach area, trails and fishing attracts many visitors.

MOON ANVIL

Tenn. Haute Parks Tenn. Haute Trib. - Star 8/30/70



T.H. HARRIS STAR 12/18/70

## Vandalism Acts May Force Closing Of Collett Park

Mayor Leland Larrison announced Monday the city may be forced to dispense with all activities at Collett Park, located at Seventh Street and Maple Ave., during the winter months if the park continues to be the target of vandals.

Larrison made the statement after conferring with Howard Harbaugh, city superintendent of parks.

Harbaugh reported during the latter part of November a number of windows were broken in the pavilion in the park. Sunday night more than 40 panes of glass were broken by vandals using BB guns and rocks.

+ + +

According to Larrison, insurance companies refuse to underwrite this type of loss. Larrison said funds budgeted for other activities, such as ice skating, must be used to replace the pavilion windows.

"If this type of destruction continues the superintendent is faced with the question of putting a night watchman at the park around the clock which is expensive or board up the windows and not schedule any activities at Collett Park during the winter," Larrison said.

The pavilion at the park is used during the winter by groups for meetings and the park's tennis courts are flooded for ice skating.

Harbaugh asked all interested persons who want to keep Col-

lett Park open 12 months of the year to report any type of vandalism to the police or park authorities.

+ + +

Larrison, speaking at his weekly news conference, also cited vandalism on the east side of the city as serious.

Larrison explained juveniles cannot be arrested and police reports cannot be made on them. "Perhaps the juveniles could be taken into police headquarters and charges filed against their parents," Larrison suggested.

To solve traffic problems and to curb car accidents, Larrison believes stiffer regulations regarding "who gets to have a drivers license and who keeps a drivers license."

Impounding cars could become necessary, the mayor added and suggested enforcement of the "lowest form of traffic rules and regulations."

When asked about prostitution in the city, the mayor said, "I can't even report at the present time whether they (the houses) are open, operating or what their status is."



*Original in Archives*





# 'From no angle do Bert and Charlie look like the carpenters of fairy groves.'

Community Affairs File

Parks and Recreation (Vigo Co.)

If a kid could will it, every tree would bend its branches down and every tree trunk would sprout steps. A tall, thin sapling, good for shinnying, would reach its limbs over to a taller and fatter old monster, which would be obligingly hollow. There would be a stalwart branch to swing from and a lithe one that could swing itself. If wishing could make it happen.

Well, Vigo County children must have been wishing in unison. Because no matter how many times they blink, the playgrounds don't go away. In fact, they keep appearing in new spots, as real and as solid as pine wood and big bolts. As child-wise as if they hadn't come out of the heads of two bearded, cigar-smoking bachelors.

From no angle do Bert Dieter and Charlie Gibson look like the carpenters of fairy groves. They can talk universal joints and welding--which would surely singe make-believe leaves--but what do they know that's relevant? They know sculpture. The art of the clean line, the eye that can copy nature exact or stylized, the ingenuity that can tunnel a child's mind straight through wood to the realm of pure imagination. Both Dieter and Gibson are sculptors, artists-in-residence at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods.

Which explains how they got together. But which doesn't explain how they got into

playgrounds. Until you know that the Montessori school at Saint Mary's requested it. Both sculptors work in steel, and the school, with evidence before it of the imaginative things the two could do, asked them for a climber. It got the climber, but when this casual start led to something bigger--the creation of a playground for Fowler Park--Dieter and Gibson went to work on some fresh ideas. The chief one was using wood. They meant for the playground to fit its forest setting like a natural mutation. Wood, unpainted wood--both Dieter and Gibson have a "gut reaction" against paint and plastic--is the main material of all the playgrounds the two have built since. Even the angles of their boards suggest the lift of tree branches. They still appreciate the benefits of their old standby steel, and they use it, but rather sparingly. "We use a standard steel slide," Dieter concedes, "because it's a good slide."

What has happened is that the artist in each of them has formed a partnership with the businessman. Dieter and Gibson now label themselves manufacturers of playground equipment; they are the Creative Playground Corporation, a functioning firm based in Terre Haute.

For a venture like that, the art of sprinkling fairy dust is obviously not enough. The first kid to step out on it would fall

through to a very substantial ground, and that unpainted wood Dieter and Gibson insist on cannot live happily ever after. So from the everyday world they take a standard "CCA" treated wood, preserved steel cable more durable than grapevine, and concrete, the usual underground support for playground equipment.

Creative Playgrounds, though, doesn't try to do the usual thing. When Dieter and Gibson use concrete, they use it liberally, not in dabs. Around the legs of the Collett Park swings, Dieter estimates, there is a cubic "yard and a half of concrete." And the legs of their equipment drive at least 30 inches into the ground.

But it's not enough, they believe, just to make children safe. That's their private world they're in up there; they need to *feel* safe. That can be done too, and Dieter and Gibson, with what they know of design and what they learned from a child development expert, do it. Their playground doesn't just sit there and mock the child too small or too insecure to try what it has to offer; it offers everybody something. It doesn't tempt one too high without plenty of safety railing or put one down for wanting a platform to rest on.

What it does is keep thrusting under the child's nose new chances at adventure. Who wants to slide all afternoon when your brother is learning to chin himself and your best friend wants you to help make the suspension bridge bounce? And who's going to tell the boy sliding down the fireman's pole what a marvelous way that has with muscles, or the girl finally approaching the tunnel slide that two sneaky men worked her up to it?

Those two men, while plotting to make the children happy, never forgot the grownups. Playgrounds, like Christmas, have to be paid for. Determined that there would be no compromise in the quality of materials or workmanship--Dieter thinks they may even use "beefier" wood--the two settled on what is, in this age, the logical cost-cutter: prefabrication. Santa could get

Story by  
Jane Knight



Photos by  
Godfrey

10 THE SPECTATOR  
NOVEMBER 15, 1975



a lot more in his bag if he would knock it all down to pack it. Dieter and Gibson can substantially reduce shipping costs by sending off their playgrounds in flat panels. Then, on the site, workmen can easily and quickly bolt the panels together, imbed the equipment, and stand back.

Even if they get stampeded, those workmen will have an easier time of it than Dieter and Gibson did during the year or more it took to perfect their designs and methods. From the moment of a design's inception to the moment when a child bounds up on it is a complex process. Pure design is a specialty of Gibson, who spent nine months in Italy studying sculpture. Dieter, who leans toward kinetic art and calls himself a "seat of the pants engineer," is adept at solving technical problems.

To illustrate the way the two work together, Dieter tells that someone once observed of a piece of Gibson's sculpture, "It looks as if it ought to move." Gibson immediately asked, "Bert, can you make it move?" Bert could and did. They collaborate much the same way to create playgrounds, but actually to set up the ones they have done so far took another step.

Piece-by-piece, on-the-spot assembly was the surest way to ferret out any bugs in their designs. They might employ a helper or two, but Dieter and Gibson were right there--at Fowler and Collett parks, at Hyte Center and Dixie Bee, at a parish school in Indianapolis, even in Des Moines--with their tools and plans. Now, working out of facilities south of town, they can ship prefabricated panels of tested design and skip a lot of the carpentry.

So the county has a new industry. And the county's youngsters have a chance, before they grow up into the plastic, pH-balanced world, to take a long hike through an enchanted forest.



Thanks to you  
it works...  
**FOR ALL OF US**



United Way

## Walker's Kitchen and Lighting Center



VISIT OUR REMODELED SHOWROOM  
TO SEE OVER 600 UNUSUAL  
LIGHTING FIXTURES ON DISPLAY  
Ask Your Lighting Specialist  
For Planning Service

Call **232-0461**

323 OHIO NEAR 4th - TERRE HAUTE

## Closeout

of discontinued fixtures

up to  
**50%  
OFF**

## Thread the Needle

Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

- Needlepoint
  - Crewel
  - Latch Hook Rugs
- Hi, Low, Rya*

Free instructions  
Blocking and Pillow  
finishing

2 mi. North of Prairieton  
on Highway 63  
299-5422



# Silver Star Ceremony to Honor Vietnam Victim

*June 15, 1965*  
The Silver Star will be awarded posthumously to Capt. Eugene. Fowler, Terre Haute Army man who died of wounds in Vietnam last April following

*Parker (W.V.) Fowler Park*  
*Terre Haute Tribune p 6*  
a land mine explosion. According to Col. Clifford Cartwright, commander of the 604th Military Police Battalion stationed at the Terre Haute Army Reserve Center on Davis Avenue, the medal will be presented to Fowler's widow and children by the 604th, of which Capt. Fowler had been a member.

## Plan Ceremony

The presentation will be

made during a special ceremony to be held June 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the National Guard Armory, 301 N. 9th St. The ceremony will be open to all interested persons, Col. Cartwright advised.

Recently, a similar military honor ceremony was held at the Armory during which the Bronze Star and Purple Heart medals were also presented to the widow and children in commemoration of the captain's bravery and sacrifice.

Mrs. Fowler and her children reside at 2409 S. 9th St.

REFERENCE  
DO NOT CIRCULATE

VIGO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

Community Affairs File



FOWLER PARK

# A thing of the past

## Christmas walk through

## Pioneer Village in Fowler Park

Is DEC 07 1986

Times were simple then, in those days when our ancestors would have inhabited the cabins in the Pioneer Village at Fowler Park.

Christmas was simple, too. Decorations included hand-dipped tapers and boughs of pine and evergreens.

The women made most of the gifts, staying up late at night to knit warm mittens or fashion dolls from corn shucks or bits and pieces of calico.

If times were good and there was sugar in the cupboard, the sweet aroma of sugar cookies and gingerbread men mingled with the scent of the pine.

The simple joy of a pioneer holiday will be re-created from 6 to 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday during the annual Christmas Walk at Pioneer Village in Fowler Park.

The log cabins will be decorated for Christmas by the volunteer families living in them.

Helen Bouillez, a volunteer at the village, noted that the families will prepare food. Cooking in the fireplaces, the women will prepare such holiday treats as ham, turkey, turnips, potatoes, corn and persimmon pudding. The food will not be sold to the public, but will be served to the volunteers when the celebration is finished.

The path through the village will be lighted by lanterns and candles. Groups of carolers will gather around the campfires to sing beloved songs. The circuit-riding preacher also is expected to visit the village.

The trading post will be open to offer such wares as candy and apples.

Mulled cider and cookies will be for sale in the basement of the log barn.

Parking will be available at the park, located southeast of Terre Haute off of Stuckey Road. No fees will be charged.

A spokesman for the Vigo County Park Department noted even with the lanterns and candles it is dark between cabins. She suggested that visitor take flashlights.

REFERENCE  
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Parks and Recreation (VC)



Trading: John Nichols and Keith Ruble trade animal hides.

Vigo County Public Library

Community Affairs File

Tribune-Star/Ronnie Jeffery